THE REAL DANGER BEHIND LARRY ZBYSZKO'S NATIONAL TITLE REIGN

December 1983

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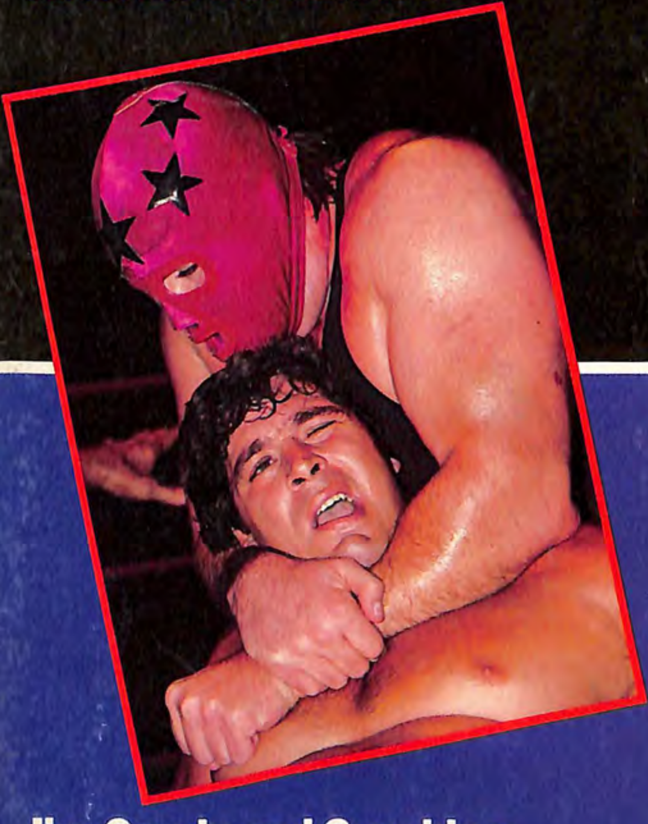
VICTORY SPORTS SERIES

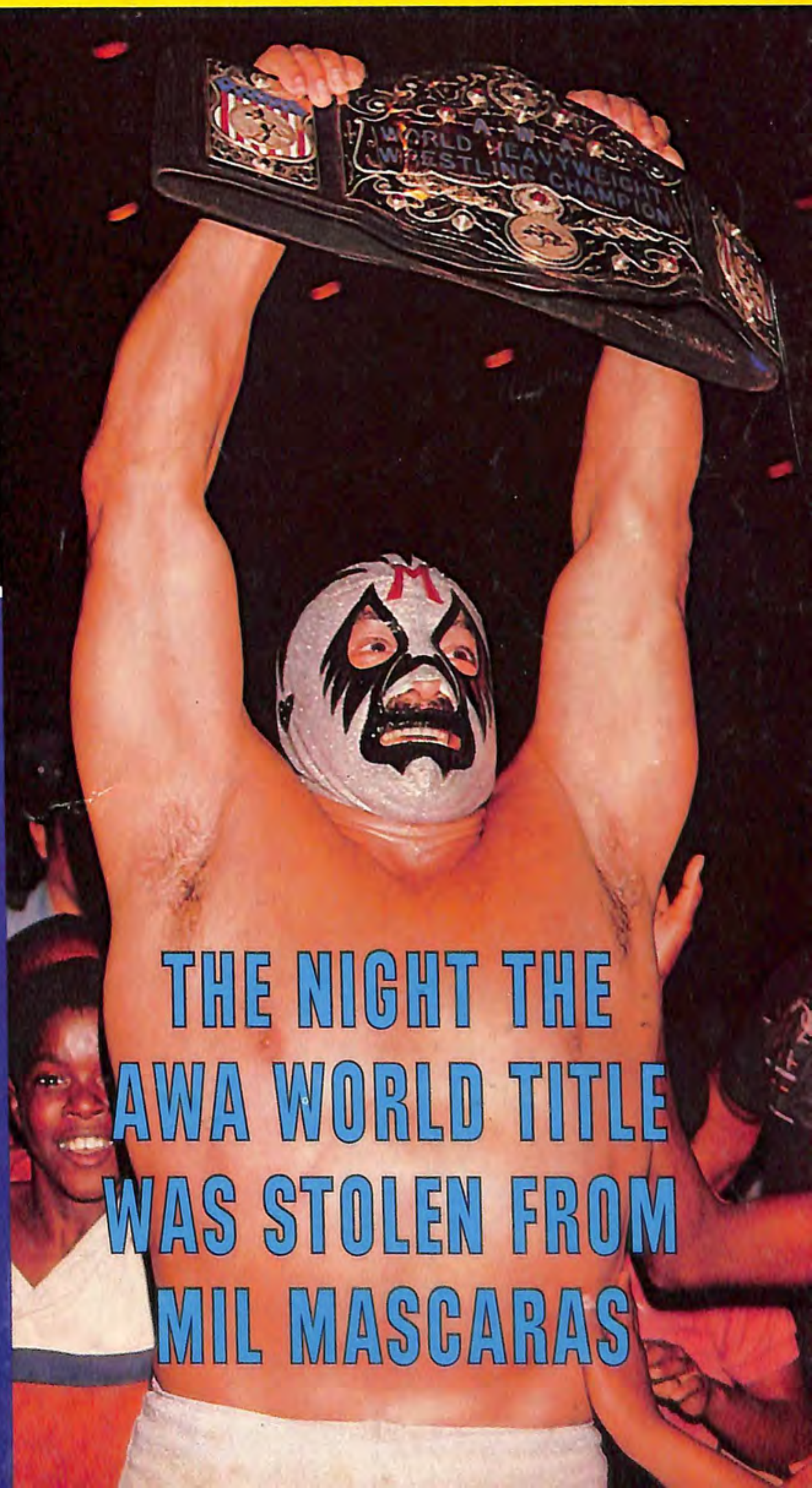
THE Wrestler

DINO BRAVO:
"I CAN TELL BOB BACKLUND HOW TO DEFEAT MASKED SUPERSTAR"



Jim Garvin and Sunshine:
DAVID VON ERICH'S FARMHANDS FOR A DAY

Steve Keirn and Stan Lane Rock Tennessee:
EVERYBODY WANTS THEM!



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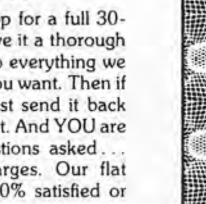

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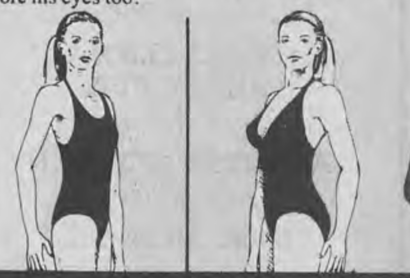

FOR MEN

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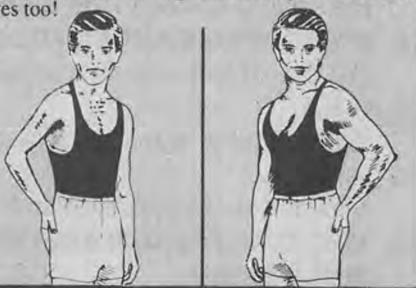

WHICH BODY DO YOU WANT?!

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The Wrestler

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Cover:
Mil Mascaras
by Jimmy Suzuki
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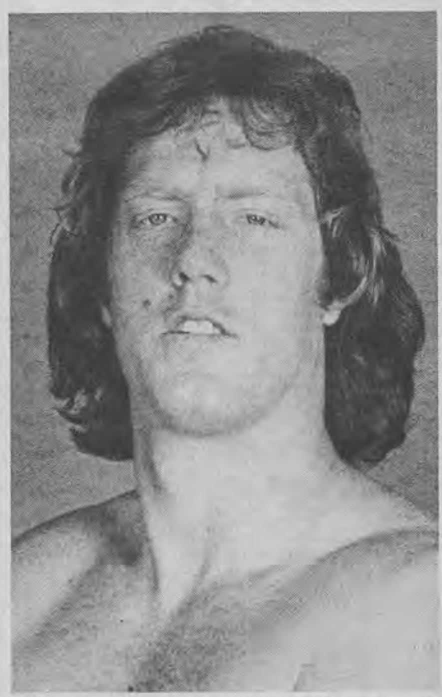


David Von Erich was completely within his rights to spank Jim Garvin's valet, Sunshine, writes Ana Garabedian.

STILL RESPECTS DAVID

I'm writing this letter because I believe that it is about time someone came to the defense of David Von Erich. Everyone seems to be condemning David for spanking Jim Garvin's valet, Sunshine, yet no one seems to know why he did it.

It is not, as David Marsden said in the October 1983 issue of *The Wrestler* ("Your Letters"), because David cannot beat Garvin. David has already done so, and several times at that. David spanked Sunshine because she provoked him by slapping him. What was David supposed to do, thank her? Of course not! Sunshine expected to get away with it, David simply proved that she couldn't.

No one likes to be slapped, and if there's going to be any apologizing, it should be Sunshine apologizing to David. I personally haven't lost respect for David, and I feel that he is a true gentleman and an excellent wrestler.

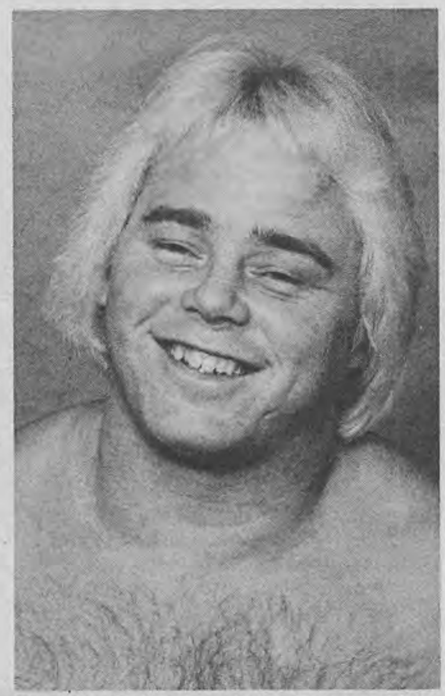
As for Garvin, it is hard to lose respect for a man you never respected in the first place. I find hiding behind a woman, as Garvin has done, totally disgraceful.

ANA GARABEDIAN
Arlington, TX

AN APPRECIATIVE READER

I just wanted to write to compliment you on the three changes you've made in your magazines recently. The time for these changes had definitely come.

1—Downgrading the WWF: Long overdue. The people who promote back there forgot that true champions wrestle *everybody*. Backlund's blathering about



The Wrestler's expanded coverage of Playboy Buddy Rose and the other Pacific Northwest wrestlers pleases Steve Handley.

wrestling in "the biggest arenas" is boring and an insult to the small towns that support wrestling.

2—The new ratings page: Outstanding! I'll bet it improves your circulation by at least 10 percent.

3—Much expanded Northwest coverage: I'm very glad you've given us our due with your excellent stories and notes on Playboy Buddy Rose, Curt Hennig, and

(Continued on page 56)

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By BILL APTER

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

IT COST **RICK MARTEL** just over $3 to land **Dino Bravo** as his tag team partner for an upcoming match against AWA tag team champions **Crusher Blackwell** and **Ken Patera**. That was the cost of a seven-minute telephone call from Rick's home in Minnesota to Dino's home in Montreal.

Rick and Dino have been friends for years and work out together in the gym whenever Rick travels to Montreal. "During our last workout I asked Dino if he would be my partner against Blackwell and Patera," Martel said. "He told me to call him when I had a contract in my hands. Patera and Blackwell's manager, **Sheik Adnan Al-Kaissie**, offered me a contract, so I called Dino and he said yes instantly. The next morning he flew to Minnesota and signed the contract."

What about the possibility of Bravo and Martel becoming a regular tag team? "Well, if we win the belts, of course we'll be together for some time," Martel said. "If not, we'll have to discuss it after the match. Win or lose, though, I'd like to keep teaming with Dino for a while."

NWA tag team champions **Jack** and **Jerry Brisco** may not care that the fans hate them, but they do care that **The Road Warriors** are bragging about defeating them in a non-title match in Atlanta's Omni Auditorium. "They may be bragging about a victory, but they can't brag about the way they beat us," Jack says. "Those guy don't play by the rules. They're just vicious animals. They can't wrestle, all they can do is pound on their opponents. Championship belts are intended for *wrestling* champions, not *brawling* champions. NWA officials should take the National tag team belts away from them. They don't deserve to be recognized as champions. Then again, I suppose that's part of the difference between *National* tag team champions, like them, and *World* tag team champions, like me and my brother. We wrestle. The Road Warriors . . . well, they do what they do."

Here's an uncharacteristic demand from NWA World champion **Harley Race**: He wants eighth-ranked contender **Super Destroyer** to step forward to demand a title shot. "Why shouldn't I give someone like Super D a chance at the belt?" Race asked. "With all the lousy competition I've been getting lately, I would welcome the oppor-

(Continued on page 50)

Dino Bravo goes high in the air to deliver a dropkick against Crusher Blackwell. Bravo will soon team with Rick Martel against Blackwell and Ken Patera, the AWA tag team champions.

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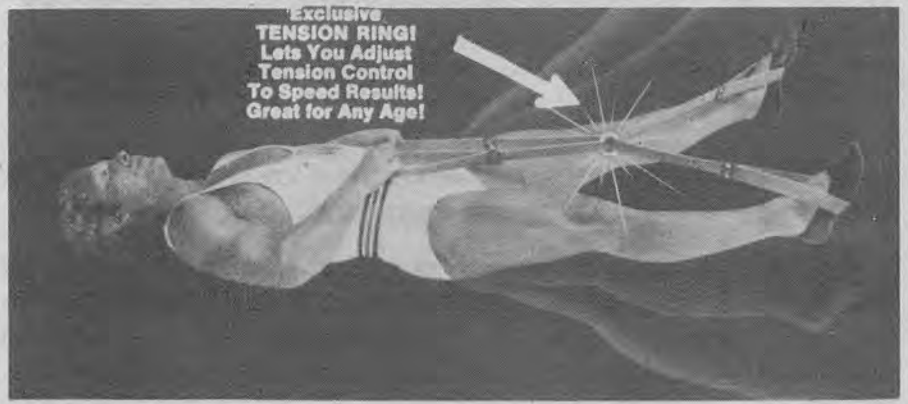

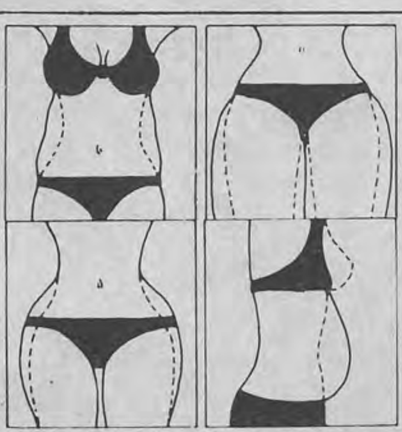

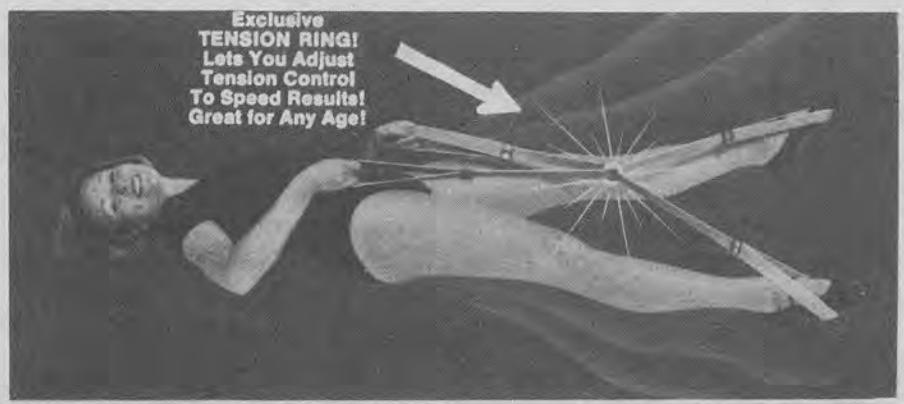

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IKE BERGER explains SYNOMETRICS™... the new EASY speed method for figure beauty

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The Science of SYNOMETRICS

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CORRESPONDENTS Reports

If you would like your area of the country represented in these reports, while also being officially credited with your own by-line, send us reports of the matches you attend. You will have the thrill of seeing your name in an internationally known magazine while at the same time helping to improve the quality of wrestling in your area. So why not give it a try? You will be glad you did! Send your reports to: CORRESPONDENT EDITOR, BOX 48, ROCKVILLE CENTRE, NY 11571.

ORLANDO, FL—*Correspondent:* Earl Roop—In the main event at the Eddie Graham Sports Complex, NWA World champion Harley Race defended the belt against the "American Dream," Dusty Rhodes. During the first 10 minutes of the match, the two traded headlocks and armbars. Race capitalized with a series of headbutts and suplexes. Rhodes came back delivering a string of elbowsmashes that rocked Race. Rhodes continued to pound Race with kicks and punches, but the champion retaliated with some of his own. The Dream managed to piledrive Race, and then wrapped the champ in a figure-four leglock. The two struggled on the mat, blood streaming down both their faces. Rhodes finally gave up on the hold, and in releasing it, pushed Race into the referee, who was knocked unconscious and out of the ring. Race took advantage of the situation and brought a chair into the ring, and then attempted a bizarre maneuver, trying to piledrive Rhodes into the chair. The Dream prevented the move, and picked up the chair to slam in on Race's head. The referee came to at that time, and awarded the match to Race by disqualification.

Dusty Rhodes' sleeperhold could not stop NWA World champion Harley Race. But a chair across the head could. Rhodes was disqualified for the infraction.

In other bouts, Elijah Akeem and Kareem Muhammad defeated Scott McGhee and Mike Graham . . . Blackjack Mulligan, Angelo Mosca Sr., and Angelo Mosca Jr. defeated Ron Bass, Kevin Sullivan, and The Purple Haze . . . Barry Windham beat Jos LeDuc . . . Les Thornton beat Ox Baker by disqualification . . . Charlie Cook beat Yoshiaki Yatsu.

DAYTON, OH—*Correspondent:* Greg Hughes—There might never be an end to the Tommy Rich-Buzz Saywer feud. In the Hara Arena, the two men battled inside a 10-foot high steel cage. Once the cage door was locked, the two men attacked each other with savage fury. Rich took advantage of the cage by slamming Sawyer's head repeatedly into the steel mesh, opening a large cut. The "Mad Dog" powered back and headbutted and punched his opponent until both men bleeding profusely. They battled without regard for their injuries until the 15-

After suffering serious facial wounds, Tommy Rich came back to score a courageous Cage Match victory over "Mad Dog" Buzz Sawyer. Apparently, their long-running feud is not yet over.

(Continued on page 54)

Now—enjoy a life of unbelievable riches, lasting love and constant protection with the secrets in this startling WITCH BOOK—

THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT

Whatever it is you need or want, Witchcraft can get it for you quickly, easily, and automatically, say these experts. You'll discover how it can bring abundant and overflowing wealth, find or bring back a lover, ward off evil influences, and much more—step-by-step in plain English, with complete easy-to-follow instructions!

Yes . . . Witchcraft! Every time you hear the word it brings with it the feelings of deep occult secrets—secrets that you would like to know so that your life can be better; so that your enemies will stop bothering you; so that serenity, love, power and comfort can be yours!

THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT lays bare these secrets for the first time! Do you want a bank account bursting at the seams with money? A love life that would make a sultan envious? Supreme power to crush your enemies and reward your friends? What would it be worth to you to utter a simple incantation that would cause any pain to vanish? Or say another, and immediately recover some lost object?

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BRINGS AUTOMATIC ASSURED SUCCESS!

Witchcraft can bring your heart's desire! You can use it to heal someone, influence the boss to give you that raise, or make someone stop bothering you! It's easy! The easiest thing in the world! You don't have to be wealthy or super-intelligent to get started! Thousands of ordinary people all over the world are using Witchcraft Power right now!

Witches have known for centuries that people are scared of them and their powers! And rightly so! NOW YOU CAN SHARE THE SAME POWER that gives you—literally—life and death control over other persons! Is someone bothering you? No problem at all, with Magic Witchcraft. For example, there is a spell called the "Cross Not My Path" ritual, for people who are having neighbor trouble. When you use it, you know you will never again have trouble with this neighbor!

With these amazing Witchcraft secrets, other people will look up to you—in awe—you'll automatically dazzle others with your power to make things happen at your will, you'll be Master of your destiny, and never have to apologize to anyone for anything!

Whatever you want or need, whatever frustration is bothering you, Witchcraft will help you. It is not evil—nor is it Black Magic. Like electricity, it is simply a power given by nature for the use of men, to make life easier.

You'll see how to get paid without working . . . how to get expensive clothes and furs FREE . . . how to get a first-class plane seat FREE . . . how to vacation at the finest hotels, motels, pools and pleasure palaces, start living like a millionaire as Witches do!

AMAZING TECHNIQUE HAS HELPED THOUSANDS!

Witchcraft secrets like these can make you rich faster than anything else in the world! Here's how others have used them to make miracles happen in their daily lives!

You'll see how Vern, a man who likes to give a lot of expensive parties, was always short of cash until he discovered the amazing WITCH'S MONEY JAR—now all he has to do is dip in, for it brings him an endless flow of cash! Evelyn, a waitress, was always lending money to friends, and was always broke. Finally, she placed her last dollar on the table, and worked the MONEY MAGNET SPELL over it. All at once, dozens of people who had borrowed money from her, rushed to pay her back!

Hank was perpetually broke. One night he got together with some friends, and they decided to cast the MONEY SPELL. The very next day, Hank received in the mail a check for some $250 worth of insurance. (He had never heard of the company that sent the check, he was not insured with them, and had never even made a claim—but he accepted the money.) Another member of the group that used the spell, a 40-year-old secretary, received an automobile as a gift! All the other members of the group received amazing windfalls of money, as well! You'll see how Dexter, a retiree, lives RENT FREE *and* receives $200 a week at the age of 78, with a secret you'll find in this Witch Book! You'll see how Claudine, a secretary, was able to wear the finest, most expensive furs—FREE—and spend weekends at an expensive ski lodge in the mountains, where she met a wonderful man! How Ruth L., a widow—with nothing but a small pension, and a little savings—received her dream house, by using a simple 5-minute ritual on page 38 of this book!

Using the same Witchcraft secrets, YOU can achieve peace of mind and freedom from money worries for the rest of your life!

YOU CAN HEAL YOURSELF AS WITCHES DO!

Feeling sick today? Plagued by a lot of troublesome illnesses? Perhaps some relative is sick and constantly demanding your attention? Or perhaps it is even a pet that needs help? With the MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT, you can cure anything, say authors Gavin and Yvonne Frost: "In our experience . . . we have not found a single incurable disease!"

• **ANDY DISSOLVES A GALLSTONE!**—Andy M. developed gallstones. When his illness became too troublesome to ignore, he went to a doctor. Urine tests revealed that he was chronically alkaline. His body was badly out of balance. Using this Witchcraft method to restore balance to the mind and body—in a short while, X-rays showed that he had no more gallstones! Andy never again suffered the excruciating pain of passing stones!

In the same way, say Gavin and Yvonne Frost, almost all illness can be prevented. You are actually employing an ancient Witchcraft method to remove diseased tissue! Even if you do not have any belief in the results, the power will work for you!

One woman, who had been in a wheelchair for 26 years, due to polio and arthritis, used the Witchcraft healing method, and reported that she had no pain and could walk and garden again! A man reported that his son's deep 3rd degree burns miraculously healed overnight!

• **SO SIMPLE A CHILD USES IT!**—A 4-year-old girl asked if she could try to heal a man who was limping—due to a torn ligament—with this simple Witchcraft healing method. In a matter of moments, she started her chant, laying her hands on the weak ankle. The man was miraculously cured! To skeptics, this should be convincing PROOF that anyone can use it!

AMAZING POWER CAN BE YOURS!

Whether you want infinite wealth, or just a comfortable new home, financial security, fine possessions, love, companionship, new health and vigor, power to control others, secret knowledge, protection from evil, or anything else, the magic power of Witchcraft can bring it to you quickly, easily and automatically! It's the easiest thing in the world!

• **HOW TO SEE INTO THE FUTURE!**—Would you like to be able to see the future? You CAN with the magic Black Mirror you'll see how to make on page 23. All you need is some ink and a bowl of water. Then use the chant on this page, and you will be able to see many things. One man uses it to read tomorrow's newspaper. YOU can use it to check the stock market or that important horse race!

• **MAKE TIME RUN BACKWARD OR FORWARD!**—A Witch uses ancient methods to make time stand still or to run it backward or forward! To make your face look young or old at will, all you need is some morning dew, and the instructions on page 27. You can fly through time and space, on astral wings, go anywhere, do anything, with the simple method on page 126. You can visit a friend, look in on an acquaintance and see what he is doing—even appear in someone's dreams, and convince that person to do whatever you wish!

• **SECRETS OF SILENT PERSUASION!**—There is a magic handshake that Witches often use, revealed on page 62. With this secret, you can implant a thought in someone's mind! You can use this Witchcraft power to dominate others! Control your boss! Make someone love you! Leave your enemies groveling in the dust! There is even a gazing technique Witches use on page 45, for identical thoughts. With this secret, you can read your friend's mind and share his or her identical thoughts!

SEND TODAY FOR YOUR NO-RISK COPY!

Witchcraft can make you rich, even in a ghetto! You should never have to worry about the rent, or where the next dollar is coming from, never have to apologize to a boss! No matter how poor you are now, THE MAGIC POWER OF WITCHCRAFT can bring you a life filled to the brim with pleasure, wealth, and all the glittering luxuries of the world! To get your copy of this amazing Witch Book, simply fill out and mail the no-risk coupon!

IN THIS WITCH BOOK YOU'LL DISCOVER . . .

- How to Cast Spells that Really Work!
- Your Magic Window on the World!
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- Telepathy Made Easy!
- Influencing Others to Do Your Bidding!
- Controlling a Conversation!
- The Technique of Silent Persuasion!
- Using Witchcraft to Find Friends!
- How to Find the Lover You Want!
- How to Bring Your Perfect Mate to You!
- How to Dominate Others!
- Witchcraft Power for Money!
- Withcraft Power to Make You Irresistible to Others!
- Spells for Finding Lost Objects!
- How to Always Win with Luck Spells!
- More Power for Bigger Goals!
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- Recharging Your Cosmic Batteries!
- Raising Your Vital Energy Level!
- How to Keep Evil Forces Away!

Now! Let This Amazing Witch Book Bring You INFINITE WEALTH, FINE POSSESSIONS, A COMFORTABLE NEW HOME, FINANCIAL SECURITY, LOVE, CONTROL OVER OTHERS, And More—Easily And Automatically!

For centuries, these Witchcraft secrets were hushed up, so that those in power could stay in power! Feudal lords kept their bondsmen as slaves. Factory owners kept their employees in dreaded sweatshops, because these masters knew they must not allow their workers to realize that they need not labor their lives away. Witchcraft was suppressed because it works! Not because of any "evil" in it. If it hadn't worked, no one would have worried about it. If you want to gain power, all you need is this amazing Witch Book!

By using these Witchcraft secrets, you too can change your life and gain health, wealth, someone to love—or anything else—surely, swiftly and automatically!

• **THE WITCH'S MONEY JAR!**—You'll discover the secret of the Witch's Money Jar, a mysterious jar that fills with money—whenever you want or need it! All you need is some water, pennies, and an ordinary jar or bowl! You'll be amazed at the speed with which it fills with money—a seemingly endless supply of needed cash!

• **THE WITCH'S MONEY MAGNET!**—You'll see how to magnetize a dollar bill so that it multiples! All you need to make your own Witch's Money Magnet is a dollar bill, a green candle, and the words on page 38. Once you do this, your dollar will double and keep doubling! You'll enjoy glittering luxuries, and start living like a millionaire, as Witches do!

• **THE WITCH'S BLACK MIRROR!**—Just as your TV set has been called your "window on the world," so the Black Mirror is your "window on the psychic world"—the world of the unknown. Making your own personal Black Mirror takes only a few moments and can open the way to unguessable visions. All you need is a bowl of water, some ink, and the chant on page 23. Suddenly you will see scenes from other places and times, or any scene you wish to see!

MEET THE AUTHORS

GAVIN FROST, B.Sc., Ph.D., D.D., is Archbishop of the Church of Wicca, New Bern, North Carolina with national headquarters in Salem, Missouri, branches in several states and worldwide membership. He is Marshal of the Gold Star of England, with the right to wear the Saffron Robe and one of the very few Witches in the Western Hemisphere privileged to wear the authentic mark of initiation on his wrist. Although descended from a long line of mystics and scholars, and formerly a Vice-President and Director of International Operations for major aerospace companies, he prefers to be thought of as a humble teacher.

Mrs. YVONNE FROST, A.A., D.D., with her husband Gavin Frost, devotes her time to giving private instruction and publishing *Survival*, the newsletter of the Church of Wicca, of which she is a Bishop.

Articles by or about Gavin and Yvonne Frost have appeared in such national publications as *Midnight* and the *National Enquirer*.

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YOU ASKED US

Here's the monthly feature which YOU get to write! It's your chance to have a top wrestler answer YOUR question! Only the best questions will be answered—so put on your thinking caps and come up with some good ones! Address your questions—and who you would like to have answer them—to: YOU ASKED US, c/o THE WRESTLER, PO BOX 48, Rockville Centre, N.Y. 11571. Questions will be answered only in this column and at our discretion!

Q: "My question is for Kerry Von Erich: Why, since you lost the Missouri State belt, haven't you been back to St. Louis? We miss you!"—Dionne Searles, Wood River, IL

A: "Well, Dionne," Von Erich replied. "I really hope to get back to St. Louis someday soon and try to get the Missouri belt back. But as you probably know, The Freebirds have just taken the six-man tag team championship away from my brothers and me in Texas, and we're going to be working very hard to get that title back where it belongs: with the Von Erichs and with our fans. Maybe after we get that title back, I can start thinking about another trip to St. Louis!"

Before Kerry Von Erich can return to Missouri, he feels that he and his brothers must regain the six-man tag team title from The Freebirds.

Q: "A question for Junkyard Dog: Were you more angry or surprised when you were attacked by Butch Reed?"—Earl Daigle, Lake Charles, LA

A: "That's a good question, Earl," Junkyard Dog replied. "Actually, I think I felt both angry *and* surprised. I was angry because I was getting attacked, and that's something that gets me angry no matter who the man is doing the attacking. And I was surprised because I really didn't expect Butch to turn on me the way he did. But more than surprise or anger, I think I'm mostly disapppointed in Butch's actions. There was no reason for him doing what he did. I hope he comes to his senses soon."

Q: "For Tommy Rich: Over the past year you have become sidetracked by savage feuds with Buzz Sawyer and Larry Zbyszko. It seems as if you take these feuds personally. After Zbyszko, are you going to work toward another NWA title? You've beaten Harley Race before, and I believe you can do it again."—Lawrence McMillan, Jarrettsville, MD

A: "Thanks for your vote of confidence, Lawrence, but the truth of the matter is that I'm through with Zbyszko and Sawyer for now," replied Rich. "Unfortunately, I've got a score to settle with Wild Bill Irwin, who whipped me with his bullrope. Well, I'm not going anywhere until I give him the whipping that his daddy should have given him a long time ago, and with his own rope to boot. Maybe after I'm

(Continued on page 58)

Wild Bill Irwin yanks at Tommy Rich's hair as the two battle outside the ring. Tommy's latest feud could be the worst yet.

Why Are Thousands Using MEDI-TEC 90™?

"IT WORKS!"

Mr. T.R.C., New York, N.Y.

See For Yourself! It's Time You Add Your Name To The List!

"Medi-Tec 90™ is about the best I ever used. My hair looks & feels better than it ever did."
Mr. R.M., Lancaster, PA

"They say hair cannot be grown, etc., but I am convinced your products are thickening my hair, & I can see new growth. I believe 'it is working'."
Mr. F.F., Ft. Wayne, IN

"After a relatively short period of treatment, I am seeing notable results. My wife, a skeptic and realist, also sees new hair. The results are significant."
Mr. B.W.

"I started using your product on Sept. 16th. I cannot believe what has happened already. My hair has filled in and thickened like I never dreamed it would again. I no longer have to spread it around and I can even part it and there are no gaps – just a fine line part. I'm so grateful that I saw your ad, but even happier that I took the risk. Keep up the good work."
Sister Dorothy Larson, S.P.

"This is my second order of what I consider an excellent product. I am eagerly awaiting delivery so I can continue the program."
Mr. W.R.

"(I'm 65), I sent in for a trial size to please my wife. the darned stuff has my pate covered with fuzz after only 3 weeks of use."
Mr. D.H., Harrisburg, PA

"I've about 70% less hair loss, so your product does work."
Mr. C.B., Philadelphia, PA

"My friends had commented, they noticed the thickness of my hair & the improved healthy condition in which it has appeared. I want my new hair growth continued."
Mr. P.S., Jarrettsville, IN

MONEY BACK GUARANTEE!

BALDNESS CURE?

EXCLUSIVE

'The progressive re-growth of hair is not in question'.

According to the Federal Trade Commission nothing now exists that can re-grow hair on a balding scalp.

Although **scores of satisfied clients,** both men and women that once suffered from the problems of baldness **are convinced** the formula known as **MEDI-TEC 90™ was the cause for their regrowth of hair,** their own documented testimonials stating the incredible results achieved with the use of MEDI-TEC 90™ is not what the Federal Trade Commission calls acceptable proof.

NOTE: The actual life photographs shown on this page, photographs of the progressive re-growth of the hair experienced while using MEDI-TEC 90™ have not been altered.

SEEING IS BELIEVING

But with the complex regulations binding the F.T.C., the possibility of coincidence prohibits F.T.C. endorsements.

FACT: That there is a definite progressive regrowth of hair while under the MEDI-TEC 90™ program is not in question.

WHAT WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE REGROWTH OF HAIR?

For the many who have used MEDI-TEC 90™ and experienced the regrowth of hair. The daily application of the MEDI-TEC 90™ solution was the cause. They feel, as the following testimonials state, that without the daily application of MEDI-TEC 90™ their suffering and embarrassment would not have ended.

"I'm writing you this letter because I must apologise. When my husband ordered your product I was mad. Throwing money away on some worthless product again. But now after ... hair is growing. I can see ... eyes."

"I started ..."

... thank you.
Mr. L.M.

... your product works. It's ... and not greasy!"
Mr. H.B.

"Your product has done more for me than grow hair on my scalp. It has given me back my confidence."
Mr. C.D.

NOTICE

The above testimonials, although real, true, and documented, are ignored by the "ENLIGHTENED" Medical Community in the U.S. because "THEY" state there is no known cure for baldness (that is, no known cure that "THEY" are aware of). However the European "ENLIGHTENED" Medical Community, not as set in their ways, diagnoses and ACCEPTS the use of various "baldness" preparations. While all the "ENLIGHTENED" Medical Communities are bickering about who is right and who is wrong, THOUSANDS OF OUR CLIENTS ARE OVERJOYED WITH THE RESULTS THEY, THEIR FAMILY, FRIENDS AND CO-WORKERS CAN SEE WITH THEIR OWN EYES.

If you want to be one of the thousands who regularly use and testify to the success of MEDI-TEC 90™ NO ENLIGHTENED MEDICAL COMMUNITY ON THE FACE OF THE EARTH CAN STOP YOU.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM MEDI-TEC 90™?

THE PHOTOS SHOWN ARE NOT STUDIO PHOTOS. THEY WERE TAKEN BY AN ACTUAL CLIENT AT HOME. THE POOR REPRODUCTION ON THIS PAGE IS DUE TO THAT FACT.

USED BY THOUSANDS OF SATISFIED CLIENTS IN MORE THAN 25 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD!

SEE RESULTS IN WEEKS.

This fast acting MEDI-TEC 90™ Formula will start to work immediately. This exclusive formula will begin to allow the hair follicle to "breath". In 2-4 weeks you will start to see evidence of new hair growth in previously bald or thinner areas. After that your new hair will gradually continue to fill in and thicken.

MEDI-TEC 90™—THE ODORLESS, GREASELESS, EASY TO USE FORMULA

This powerfully effective formula is easy to use. It is odorless, it is greaseless and it is easily applied with a spray applicator that is supplied at no extra charge. Simply spray MEDI-TEC 90™ onto the thinning or balding areas of the scalp a few times each day. You will see results. GUARANTEED!

CERTIFIED GUARANTEE:

The only claim the Robertson-Taylor Co. makes is this: For whatever reason, (medical or other...) our clients have seen a DEFINITE ... appearance of their hair ... The Robertson ... your money will be refunded promptly. There is no reason not to try to better yourself. Others have tried and have been overwhelmed with the visible results. CAN THOUSANDS OF SATISFIED CLIENTS BE WRONG?

ORDER MEDI-TEC 90™ NOW!

Thank you.
The Robertson-Taylor Co.

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THE ABOVE ARE TRUE AND DOCUMENTED TESTIMONIALS. INITIALS ARE USED TO PROTECT OUR CLIENTS REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIALITY.

"I can't stop Medi-Tec 90™ now I am growing little baby hairs all over the bald of my scalp...Your great formula does stimulate the growth of scalp hair. So I'm not stopping until I have an inch or two of good black or gray hair."
Mr. G

"Just want you to know the Medi-Tec 90™ is working. Have seen results in only a few weeks.
Mr. G.G., Castleton, NY

"After 4 weeks I felt that I was noticing an increase in tiny little hairs all over the bald parts of my scalp. I ordered another Med-Tec 90™ and after two weeks ordered the overnight concentrate and used them together in a daily program. After another month I could definitely say that new hairs were popping up all over the bald areas of the scalp and the sparse areas were filling in...the existing patches of hair appeared to be getting thicker and stronger. I am, needless to say, very pleased to see any results, much less such clear cut accomplishments, especially when I thought my lack-of-hair situation was irreparable. I am extremely grateful for the availability of such a useful product and look forward to daily progressive hair growth.
Mr. R.S., Indianapolis, IN

"Your product (Medi-Tec 90™) has grown me new hair...It has also stopped completely all premature hair fallout and doubled the thickness of my hair."
Mr. B.B.

"Much to my surprise, it seems to work."
Mr. E.G.

"I have finally found a product that makes my scalp feel like a million bucks and don't want to be without it."
Mr. J.N., New Rochelle, N.Y.

"If any one has any fuzz at all on their head we are positive that your Therapeutic Scalp Stimulant and Conditioner has a 100% chance of growing hair.
Mr. R.H., Los Angeles, CA

GUARANTEED TO WORK FOR YOU OR PAY NOTHING!

CERTIFIED GUARANTEE:

The only claim the Robertson-Taylor Co. makes is this: For whatever reason, (medical or otherwise), our clients have seen a DEFINITE improvement in the appearance of their hair and scalp.

The Robertson-Taylor Co. stakes its entire reputation on the incredible results achieved by thousands while using MEDI-TEC 90™ Formulations. We urge you not to miss this opportunity.

Our guarantee contains no "fine print" nor misleading terms. Simply stated, if you use our fine MEDI-TEC 90™ Formmulations and do not see the same positive results experienced by thousands of our most satisfied clients, we will refund the entire purchase price. (We do not belive you should pay your hard earned money for something that does not work.) Again, let us restate: If for any reason MEDI-TEC 90™ Formulations do not work for you, your money will be refunded promptly. There is no reason not to try to better yourself. Others have tried and have been overwhelmed with the visible results. CAN THOUSANDS OF SATISFIED CLIENTS BE WRONG?

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Thumbs Up

Each issue, *The Wrestler* will praise the noteworthy and damn those who violate the honor of wrestling. The praiseworthy receive a Thumbs Up, the disgraceful are marked with a Thumbs Down. Here is this month's roll of honor and shame.

THUMBS UP to Jimmy Valiant: All too often in professional wrestling we hear of a man claiming that he will "run somebody out of town once and for all." Usually, it only amounts to empty boasting. In Jimmy Valiant's case, however, his promise to eliminate Sir Oliver Humperdink and One Man Gang from the Mid-Atlantic has been fulfilled. The "Boogie Woogie Man" wrestled Humperdink in a Loser Leave Town Match, a match that Humperdink lost. Since leaving the Mid-Atlantic, nobody has seen or heard of Humperdink's whereabouts, and fans can only guess where he will turn up next. As for Valiant, he continues to bask in the glory of a hard-fought, well-deserved victory.

THUMBS UP to Hulk Hogan: When Hogan made several challenges to Nick Bockwinkel's AWA World title a few months back, he had intended to reward his fans for their support by winning that title. When he failed, he sank into a depression and traveled to Japan to escape the disappointment he felt he thrust upon his fans. But Hogan's supporters in the AWA would not let him stay away. They sent petitions to Hogan imploring him to return to the area, which Hogan has done. We salute Hogan for listening to the collective voice of his fans and for having the internal drive to strive for a goal that has proved so elusive.

THUMBS UP to Larry Zbyszko: Although many fans are displeased about the fact, Zbyszko is the NWA-recognized National champion. Mr. Wrestling II embarrassed himself when he stole Zbyszko's belt, and all he gained was a strap of gold and leather: He could not steal the title itself. Zbyszko has remained outraged at Wrestling II's actions, and at the lack of action by NWA President Bob Geigel in helping him to regain the belt. Zbyszko could have taken matters into his own hands, initiating a bloody onslaught of Wrestling II as a way to get the belt back. Fortunately, Zbyszko has demonstrated a relative level of restraint in this matter, and we are thankful for that.

THUMBS UP to Dino Bravo: A close friend of Rick Martel's, Bravo has chosen to give up some valuable time defending his Canadian International heavyweight title in Canada to spend time in the AWA area teaming with Martel. Together, the team of Martel and Bravo are challenging Ken Patera and Crusher Blackwell for the AWA tag team championship belts. Bravo realizes that if he were to win the tag team title, he would be facing an incredibly grueling schedule of defenses of both his championships, but he feels the rewards are worth the possible risks involved.

Thumbs Down

THUMBS DOWN to Mil Mascaras: There is no question that Mascaras is one of the most talented and respected wrestlers in the entire world. But Mascaras has been wrestling in the AWA, World Class, and Mid-South areas in the last month alone. He recently challenged Nick Bockwinkel for the AWA World title, and came within a hair's breadth of capturing the belt. If Mascaras weren't spreading himself so thin over so many areas of the country, he might have been able to capture that belt. We implore Mascaras to concentrate his efforts in one area so that he can gain in the record books the success he's already attained in the hearts of the fans.

THUMBS DOWN to Roddy Piper: We realize that Piper has been through a great deal of stress since returning to the Georgia area, but this latest phase of his career has become too violent too quickly. Not only did Piper become engaged in a bloody feud with "Mad Dog" Buzz Sawyer, but he initiated a special match between himself and Sawyer in which both combatants would be tied together by a heavy chain wrapped around their necks. Piper's return to the Georgia area is an event for which many fans have long waited, but his return has also signaled an escalation of violence that we simply cannot condone.

THUMBS DOWN to Bob Backlund: The WWF titlist has received a lot of criticism lately because he refuses to face scientific challenges to his championship. Top WWF contenders Rocky Johnson, Jimmy Snuka, and Tito Santana have repeatedly been refused title shots. In light of these facts, we are distressed that Backlund recently traveled to Florida to defend his WWF belt against Bobby Duncum. He ought to provide title matches to worthy WWF contenders before traveling all the way to Florida to defend his belt against yet another rulebreaker.

THUMBS DOWN to Harley Race: We respect the fact that Harley Race has achieved a record for NWA World title reigns, but the latest news about Race is very distressing. It is reported that he has offered a $25,000 reward to any man in the Mid-Atlantic area who can eliminate former NWA World champion Ric Flair from title contention. Perhaps Race is simply trying to gain some quick publicity by posting a bounty on Flair, or perhaps he's truly afraid of Flair as a title contender. Whatever the reason, bounty hunting is an irresponsible and reprehensible activity. We abhor Race's offering of any such money. □

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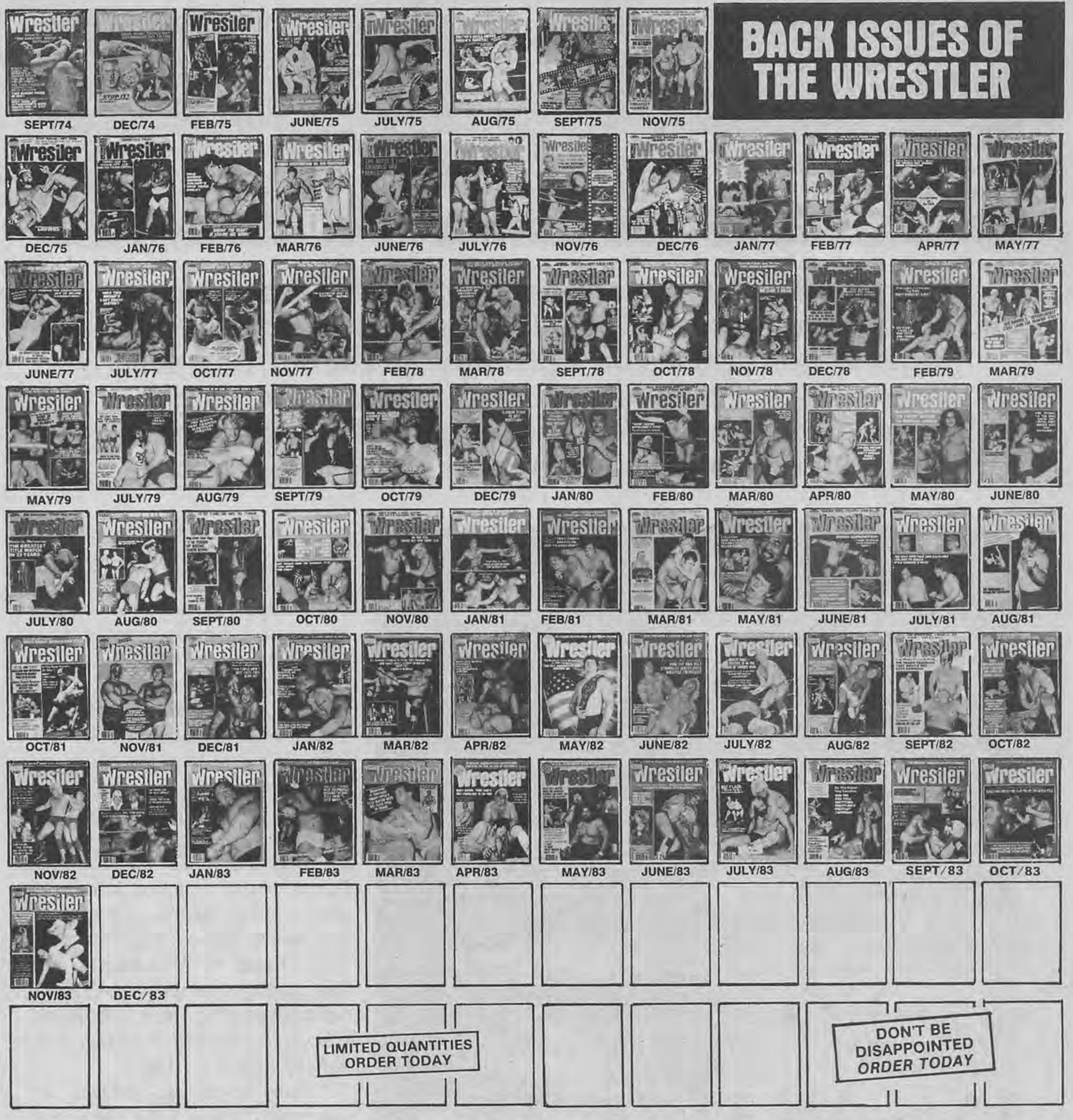

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INTRODUCING ANGELO MOSCA JR.

A professional wrestler's debut match is something he remembers for his entire life. Nobody in Florida will ever forget Angelo Mosca Jr.'s professional debut, however. Not only will it have lasting effects on the wrestler himself, but it could affect the career of his father and the entire Florida wrestling scene for many years to come

"TALK ABOUT A kid being thrust into the limelight," Dusty Rhodes said. "He got right into it, a quality that Stardust here appreciates. You just get in there and rumble."

Angelo Mosca Jr. should take great pride in receiving such a compliment from a two-time NWA World champion. But the praise will not stop there for the son of Angelo Mosca. He'll have a lot of people complimenting him and his wrestling ability in the years to come.

Mosca got initiated into the pro ranks in a rather unexpected way. Angelo, who had been in training to make his pro debut in a few months, was interviewed on Florida television by Gordon Solie and then stayed to lend his commentary to a match between Kevin Sullivan and Barry Windham.

When the action moved out of the ring, Sullivan's partner, The Purple Haze, attacked Windham with a spike. Mosca, outraged at the attack, leaped from his seat and rushed to Windham's aid. The young man positioned himself between the Haze and Windham and absorbed the force of a spiking meant for Barry.

"I saw it coming," Mosca Jr. later said. "It was a gut reaction. I just tried to stop it."

The heroic Mosca had become involved in much more than he could handle, however. He was brutally beaten by Sullivan and Haze, who fled to the dressing room when Windham recovered. Barry tried to revive the unconscious Mosca Jr. and was soon joined in the effort by Angelo Mosca Sr.

(Continued on page 20)

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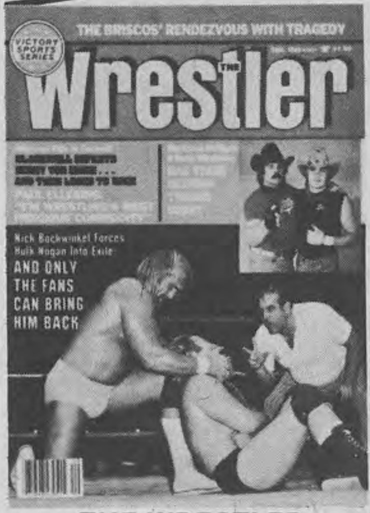

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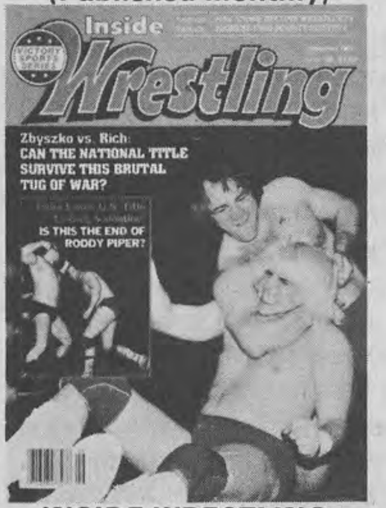

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ANGELO MOSCA JR.

(Continued from page 18)

The Moscas pose together in the ring before a tag team match. The 6'1" Angelo Jr. weighs 234 pounds and carries not an ounce of excess fat. He has already proved his courage and determination. His future in this sport is extremely bright.

"Those few minutes changed a lot of things," Mosca Jr. said. "As a result of everything that happened, my father is teaming with Dusty Rhodes, Blackjack Mulligan, and Barry Windham. Who would have ever predicted that? I may have become a professional wrestler a little prematurely, but that's working out as well. A lot of people who didn't know me beforehand know me now. I guess getting hit by the Haze did a lot of good. Sure I was badly hurt, but I also gained a lot. And I think my father is better off for it, too. He's a different man."

Angelo Jr. remembers being a child and watching his father enter the ring amid the boos of the crowd. He wondered why the fans disliked his father so much. "As a kid, I really didn't understand it," he said. "I didn't comprehend what was going on. He was my Dad, you know? He was my hero, and everyone was booing him."

Mosca Jr. wrestled in high school in his hometown of Hamilton, Ontario. He attended the University of Montreal, where he played football and graduated with a degree in physical education. "If I didn't go into professional sports," he said, "I probably would have gone on for my master's degree and then into physical therapy."

After graduating from college, the 6'1", 234-pound Mosca tried out for the British Columbia Lions of the Canadian Football League. "I realized while I was in training camp that what I really wanted was to be a wrestler," he recalled. "I dropped the idea of football and traveled with my father for a while to find out what I could expect being a professional wrestler.

"I found out that I really enjoyed being out on the road. It's a great experience. I'm young, I don't have anything to tie me down, so why not see the world and work at the same time? I miss home, but my mother has always been supportive. She has stuck by my father all these years."

Mosca, who trains with his father, admits that he has not yet fully developed his own style. "I see a lot of my father in my performance," he said. "There are a lot of loose ends in my style waiting to be tied together. But I've been assured that everything will come together with time."

His current goal is to step up to main-event status in singles matches. "The featured matches I've been in are tag team matches, with Dad, or Barry Windham, or Blackjack Mulligan. I want to hit the main events on my own. That's when I'll know that I'm going places in wrestling.

"Of course, all of this, I hope, will lead to a world title. Every wrestler wants that. It'll take time though. I don't think I could learn any faster than I am now. There's a lot of stuff out there to learn. I don't think you ever stop learning. If I ever do, I'll quit wrestling. It wouldn't be a challenge anymore, and I love a challenge." □

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Q&A

Each month, THE WRESTLER will present a "Question and Answer" forum with an important figure in the wrestling world. It is your chance to meet wrestling's biggest stars as they answer the questions uppermost on the fans' minds

Earlier in their Logger's Chain Match, before either wrestler is marked, "Mad Dog" Buzz Sawyer grabs Roddy Piper around the back of his head and flings him to the turnbuckle at the opposite side of the ring.

Q: Why are you feuding with Buzz Sawyer?

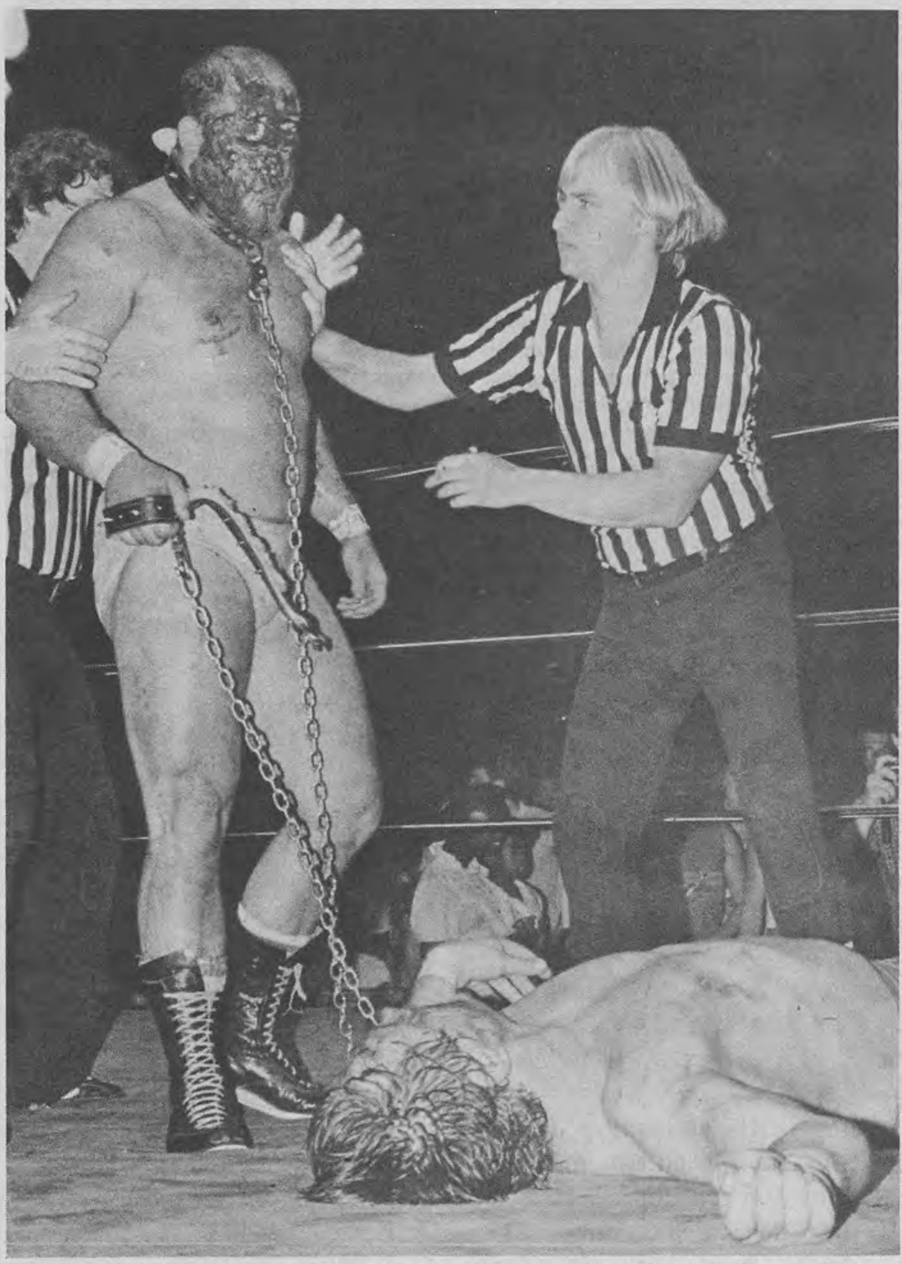
A: Feud? I'm not feuding with anyone. Roddy Piper doesn't feud, Roddy Piper is interested in competition. I want the best competition anywhere. I want a good fight. I come back to Georgia, and everyone tells me there's a mad dog loose in the area. I say, "A mad dog? Why, you don't mean little Buzzy Sawyer," and they all tell me, "Watch out for him, he's crazy, he'll catch you while you aren't looking." So I think to myself, this might be a good fight. I like a good fight, I've never backed down from a good fight in my life. So then this Precious Paul Ellering guy gets himself involved, and I don't know who he is, he looks like Colonel Sanders, and maybe the mad dog is nothing but chicken, but now I've got to worry about him, too. Two on one? Ellering and Sawyer against Piper? That's the way I like it.

Q: Why did you agree to wrestle in a Chain Match in which you were tied together at the necks?

A: Agree? No, I didn't agree, I *suggested* that match. Yes sir, jack, a 10-foot logger's chain, the same chain used to pull trees down the river to the saw-mill, was used to pull Sawyer

RODDY PIPER

RODDY PIPER'S CAREER has reached a point of extreme turmoil. He recently suffered a terrible setback when Greg Valentine mutilated his left ear, leaving him with only 25 percent of his hearing capability in that ear and without the U.S. title. Piper has returned to the Georgia area, where he has become embroiled in an unusually violent feud with "Mad Dog" Buzz Sawyer, a conflict that led to one of the most brutal and bloody matches Atlanta has ever seen. But there will be no rest for Roddy. Valentine is now wrestling in Georgia, and the fans are anticipating an explosion to occur between those two rivals at any moment. *The Wrestler* recently spoke to Piper about these current developments in his career.



Referee Nick Patrick tries to restrain Sawyer momentarily to allow Scrappy McGowan to examine the extent of the wrestler's facial wounds (above). Piper fights for air as he dangles outside the ring (top right).

to the mat to meet defeat.

Q: Both you and Sawyer engaged in some special training methods for that match . . .

A: Sawyer engaged in special methods, I didn't have to do anything. I'm ready for any kind of action, anytime. Sawyer, now he had to do things to get ready to face me, brother, and I'm sure Ellering had a lot to do with that. Ellering had him drinking raw eggs and toughening up his head on a chain and all that. Well, I'm tough to begin with, I don't have to work to get there. Obviously Ellering is worried about Sawyer. Otherwise he

wouldn't have had him work so hard.

Piper's memory of the night Greg Valentine mutilated his ear and took his U.S. title is still fresh (above). During a previous match in the Mid-Atlantic, Piper applies a headlock (opposite right) and Valentine applies a wristlock (below). The two are expected to sign for a series of matches in the Georgia area.

Q: There have been rumors that you may not stay in Atlanta very long. Are they true?

A: Well, you know what people say and think and do. They tried to kick me out of the area once before, and they were successful in doing that. Then they tried to keep me out of the area permanently, but they couldn't do that. Now I'm back and they're trying to kick me out again, but I don't want to leave. No, sir, I don't want to leave because I like it just fine in Atlanta. So if there are rumors that I'm leaving, it's only because these people are trying to get me to leave. But they won't succeed.

Q: Who are the people trying to run you out of the area?

A: Fans who don't like me, you know they voted me off the air when I was doing commentary with Gordon Solie last year. Wrestlers who are intimidated by me, who don't want to have to pay the Piper inside that ring. Officials and promoters who are afraid of me, who think I'm too unpredictable for their delicate little rings. They don't want to get their cornerposts dented when I ram the head of someone like Sawyer or Valentine into it.

Q: Speaking of Valentine, how is your hearing?

A: What?

Q: I said . . .

A: I heard you, I'm just joking. I'm not completely deaf you know, only 75 percent in one ear. I still experience pain when

I turn my head a certain way, and I still have to wear a bandage on my ear. But I'll get even with him someday, that's a promise. At one time or another, everyone pays the Piper.

Q: It seems that Valentine has followed you into Atlanta. Will you sign a contract to wrestle him, perhaps in The Omni?

A: Valentine isn't following me anywhere, you see, because if Valentine was following me, that would mean that I am going somewhere with my back turned to him, and Roddy Piper turns his back on no man, on no fight, nowhere, no way!

Q: But will you wrestle him?

A: Yes, I'll wrestle him. In a cage? With a chain tied around our necks? With bullropes in the ring? Lights Out Match? Texas Death Match? You name it, I'll sign the contract for it. I'm not about to let Valentine keep strutting around the country with the U.S. belt that should be around *my* waist. And when I win the belt back, I want you to come back and talk to me again. □

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WRESTLING 83

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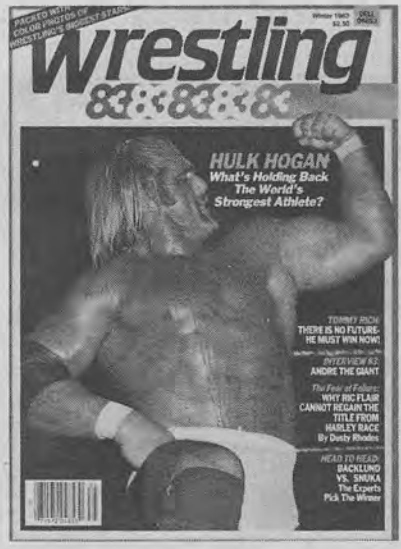
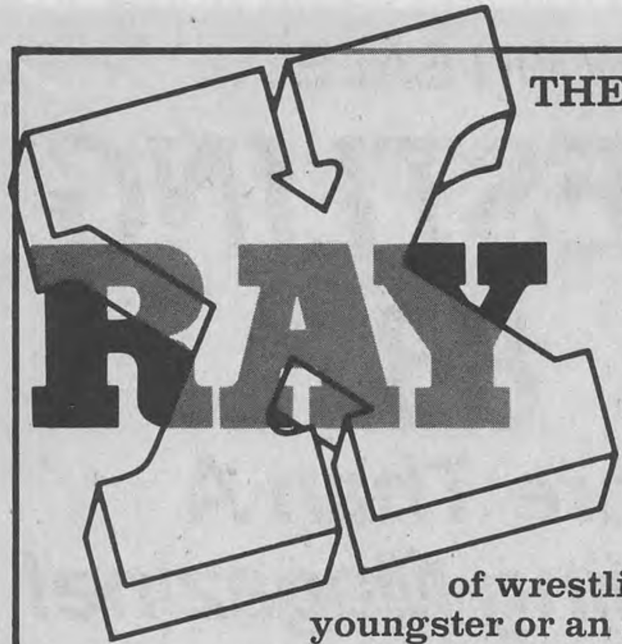


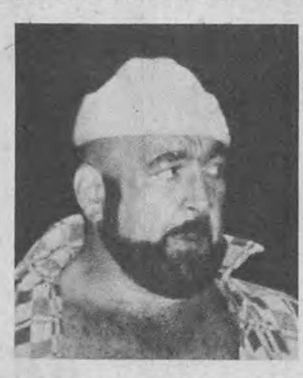
Be sure to head for your newsstands, because the slickest, most colorful wrestling magazine ever is now on sale—***WRESTLING 83***. It's the debut issue of the most awaited wrestling publication ever. Pages of **FULL-COLOR ACTION & PORTRAITS** of wrestling's greatest stars, plus excellence in the tradition of **Pro Wrestling Illustrated**, **The Wrestler**, and **Inside Wrestling** make ***WRESTLING 83*** the magazine event of the year. More than a year in the planning, ***WRESTLING 83*** will deliver pages of color, action, and enjoyment unequaled anywhere. You've heard the talk about ***WRESTLING 83*** for months. Now it's time for you to see for yourself.

HERE'S A LOOK INSIDE THE DEBUT ISSUE:

- **Full-length color features on Hulk Hogan, Tommy Rich, Ric Flair, and Harley Race**
- **Coverage of the horribly sadistic brawl between Jimmy Valiant and The Great Kabuki**
- **A sizzling interview with the undefeated Andre the Giant**
- **The experts pick the winner of a dream match between Bob Backlund and Superfly Snuka**
- **Our cameras bring you to the home of the legendary Mr. Wrestling II**
- **A column written by controversial wrestling manager Precious Paul Ellering**
- **Plus columns and features never before seen in a wrestling magazine**

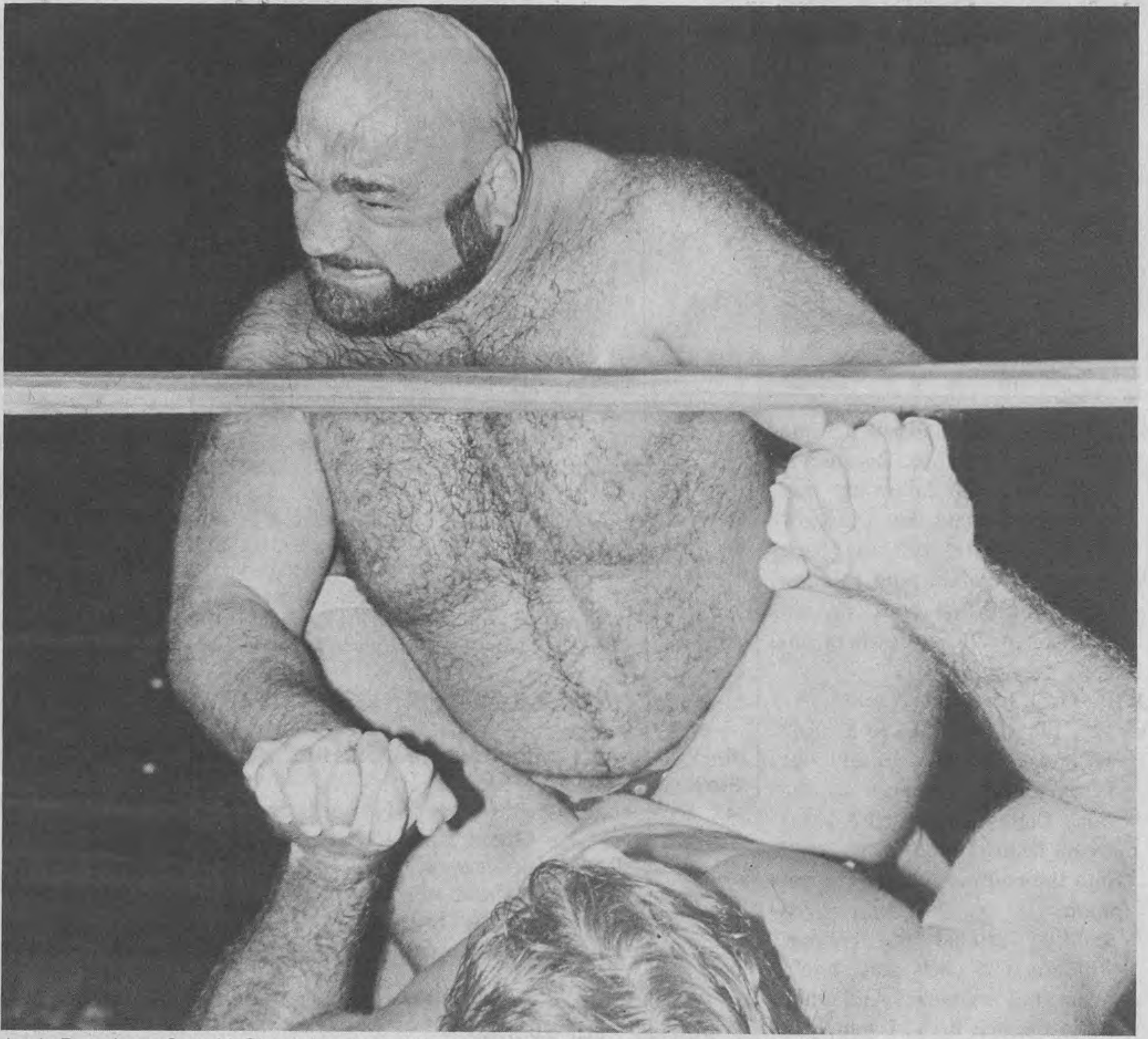


THE WRESTLER PANEL EXAMINES



JOS LeDUC

Each month THE WRESTLER'S panel of experts will offer their candid opinions of one of wrestling's stars. Whether an up-and- coming youngster or an established superstar in his own right, our panel will always be frank and honest without fear of reprisal



Jos LeDuc clasps Scott McGhee's hands and tries to force his arms and shoulders to the canvas. Power wrestling has been the hallmark of LeDuc's style for many years. LeDuc developed his enormous strength as a lumberjack in Canada, and today he chops down wrestlers in the same manner he used to chop down trees.

BRUNO SAMMARTINO

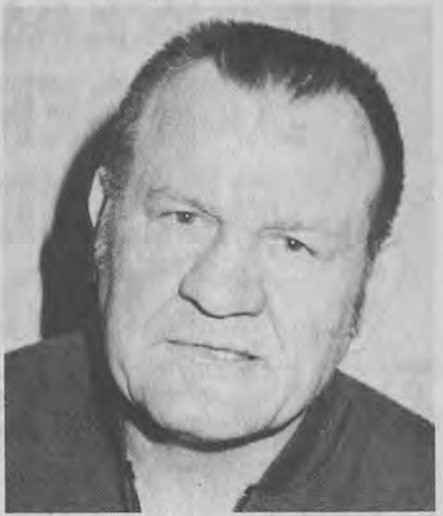
Jos LeDuc is a big, strong ox of a man. You can't try to overpower a wrestler like him. The way to wrestle him is to keep him moving. Many times, it is not a question of who the better man is. I think a man who can move quickly, like Tito Santana, for example, could beat LeDuc easier than another powerful man, like, say, Ken Patera. It's a question of wrestling styles.

Bruno Sammartino is known as wrestling's "Living Legend." He is considered the finest wrestler to ever hold the WWF title.

VERNE GAGNE

Jos LeDuc is not the type of wrestler that I admire. He's a brawler. This might not bother me so much if he didn't have any wrestling talent, but the man *does.* Why doesn't he use that skill? He is a rugged man who knows how to win, but he is far from being an honorable competitor. That's the road he has chosen for himself.

Verne Gagne held the AWA World title a record 11 times. He was recently voted "Best Scientific Wrestler" of the last 25 years.



GENE KINISKI

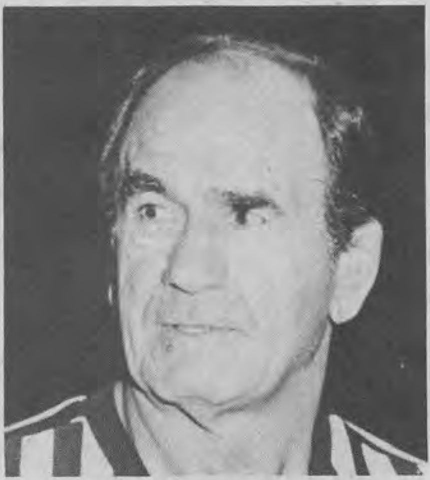
I can just imagine what everyone else is saying about Jos LeDuc. They're saying that he breaks the rules and he should be damned. They make me laugh. Jos LeDuc is a winner, and winning is everything in this world. Have you ever heard of a top executive being damned for stepping on some people on his way to the top? No.

Gene Kiniski is a rugged Canadian who was NWA World champion in the late 1960s.

BUDDY ROGERS

This Jos LeDuc is a very dangerous man. I have never seen him back away from a challenge, not once. Look at his background. He was a lumberjack in the cold, Canadian backwoods. That's what makes LeDuc a very tough individual. He just keeps coming until he gets the job done.

Buddy Rogers is the only man to hold the NWA World and WWF titles. He is currently a wrestling manager and a television commentator.



LOU THESZ

When I think of Jos LeDuc, I first see the word "anger." He is an angry man. I don't know why he is that way. Maybe something happened to him years ago that made him the way he is. If he could control his angry nature, he would be a better wrestler. There's no room for uncontrolled emotion in the ring.

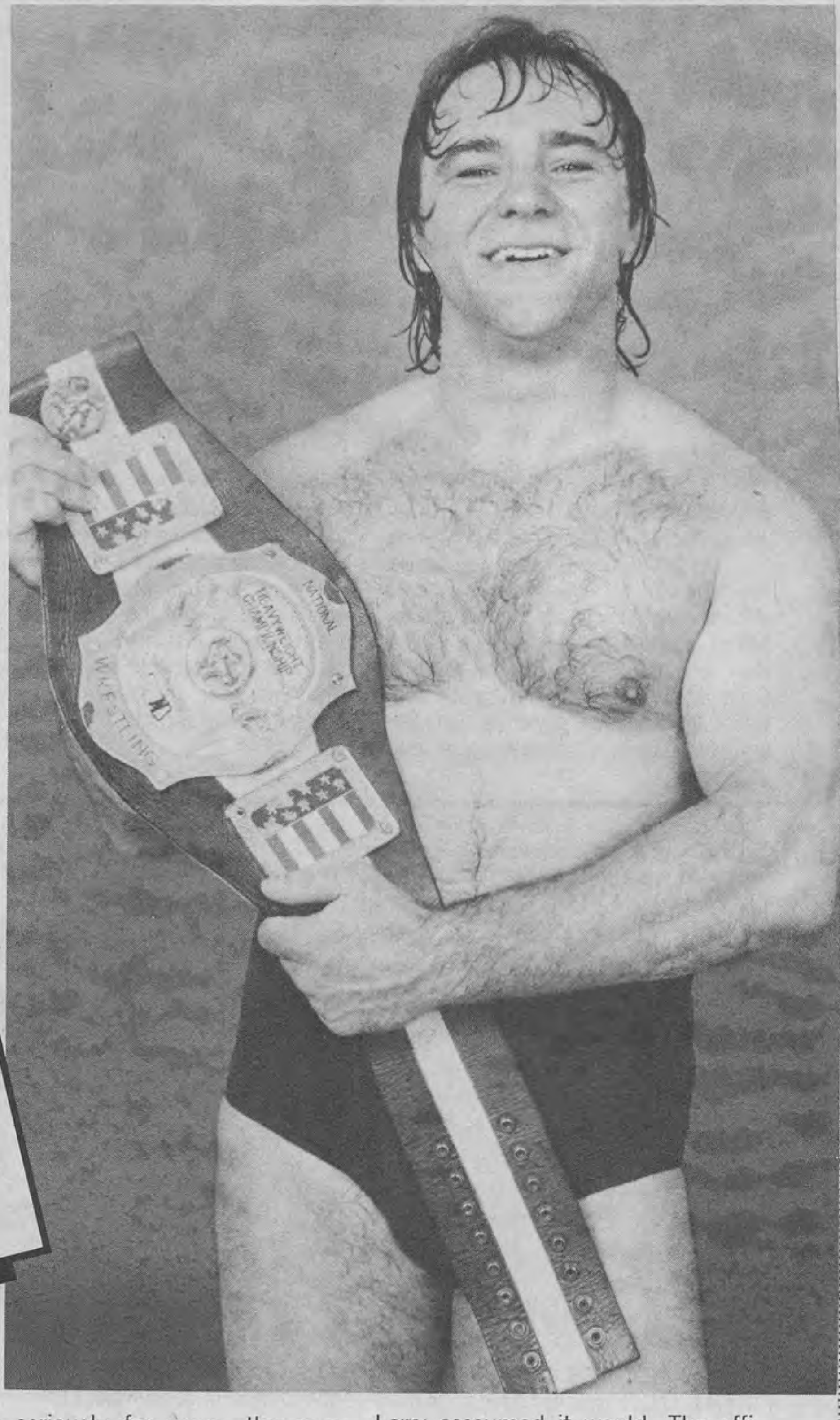
Lou Thesz held the NWA World title six times during his fabulous 50-year career. Many consider him the greatest all-round wrestler in history.

EDDIE GRAHAM

I've seen a great deal of the man lately. He has proven to be a very tough Florida champion. Also, a very crafty one. He managed to wheel and deal Barry Windham right out of contention for the belt. In the past, he'd take on any challenger. Maybe he's slowing down a little. Maybe he needs that trickery now to hold onto the title.

Eddie Graham is a former co-holder of the World tag team title, and was a top contender for the NWA World title.

THE REAL DANGER BEHIND LARRY ZBYSZKO'S NATIONAL TITLE REIGN



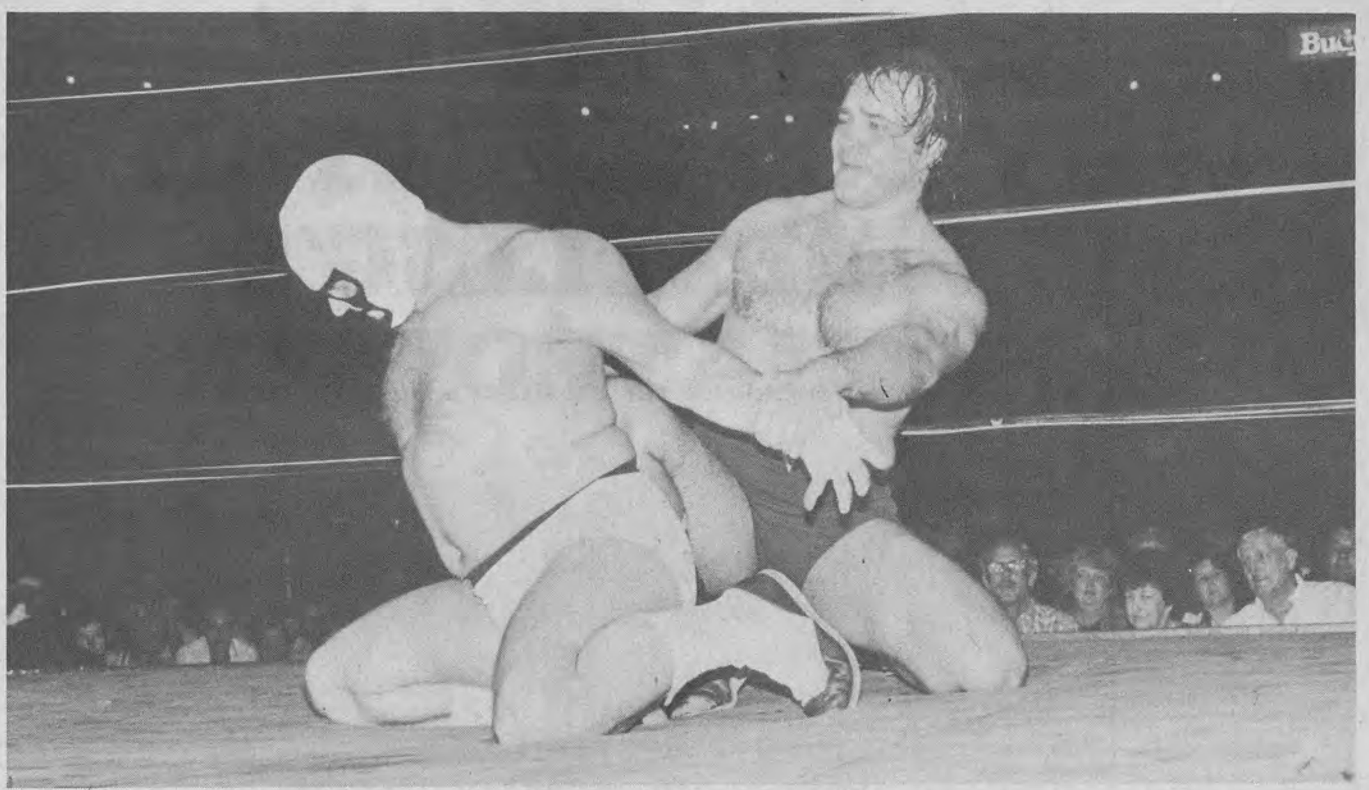
Now that Larry Zbyszko seems to have a stranglehold on the National title, the true danger of his title reign is becoming distressingly clear. Can anyone stop him? Does anyone dare? Before insisting that your favorites challenge Zbyszko, you'd better read this story!

Photos by Emmy Yates

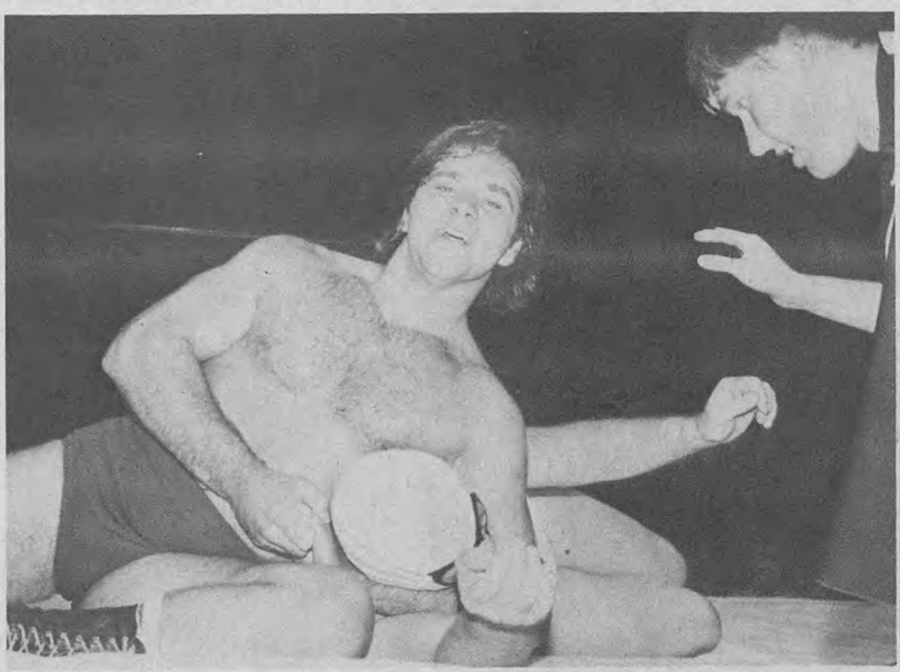
IT STARTED OUT as Larry Zbyszko's dream, which in turn would become wrestling's nightmare. The few who knew Zbyszko's secret didn't take him seriously. Larry had never been the kind of guy able to mount a sustained war. His friends just nodded and went about their business.

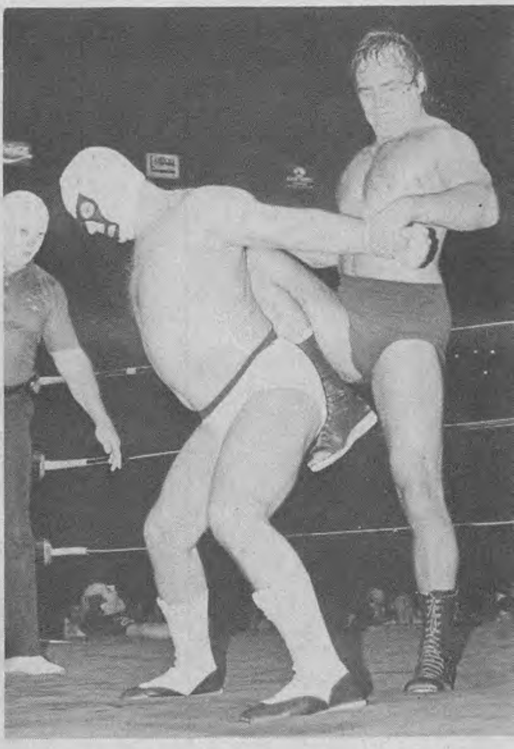
Now, Zbyszko's intentions are everybody's business. The guy nobody took seriously for years, the man dismissed as Bruno Sammartino's shadow, has suddenly emerged as a dangerously powerful force. Already, surely aided by the fact nobody took him seriously, his plan is being implemented. It may be too late to stop him.

It started when Larry tried to buy the National title from Killer Brooks. This enraged everyone, as Larry asssumed it would. The officials got together and declared it illegal to buy a championship. They declared the National title vacant and organized a tournament with the belt at stake. To almost everyone's shock and anguish, Larry won the belt. He continued to defend the title, successfully if not honorably. From an annoyance, Zbyszko grew to be a power. It was then



Zbyszko focuses his attack on Mr. Wrestling II's back (above and right). Zbyszko, who once looked to the fans for encouragement, now shows his utter disrespect for ringsiders as he headlocks Wrestling II (below).





that people began to realize what he had done and continued to do. "Trying to buy the belt was his stroke of genius," Mr. Wrestling II now admits. "His whole plan hinged on the fact that people would be so angry that they'd be distracted. It worked. People figured once Zbyszko was stripped of the title, he would be powerless. I know I concentrated on other wrestlers when preparing for the tournament. Nobody expected Zbyszko to last into the second round.

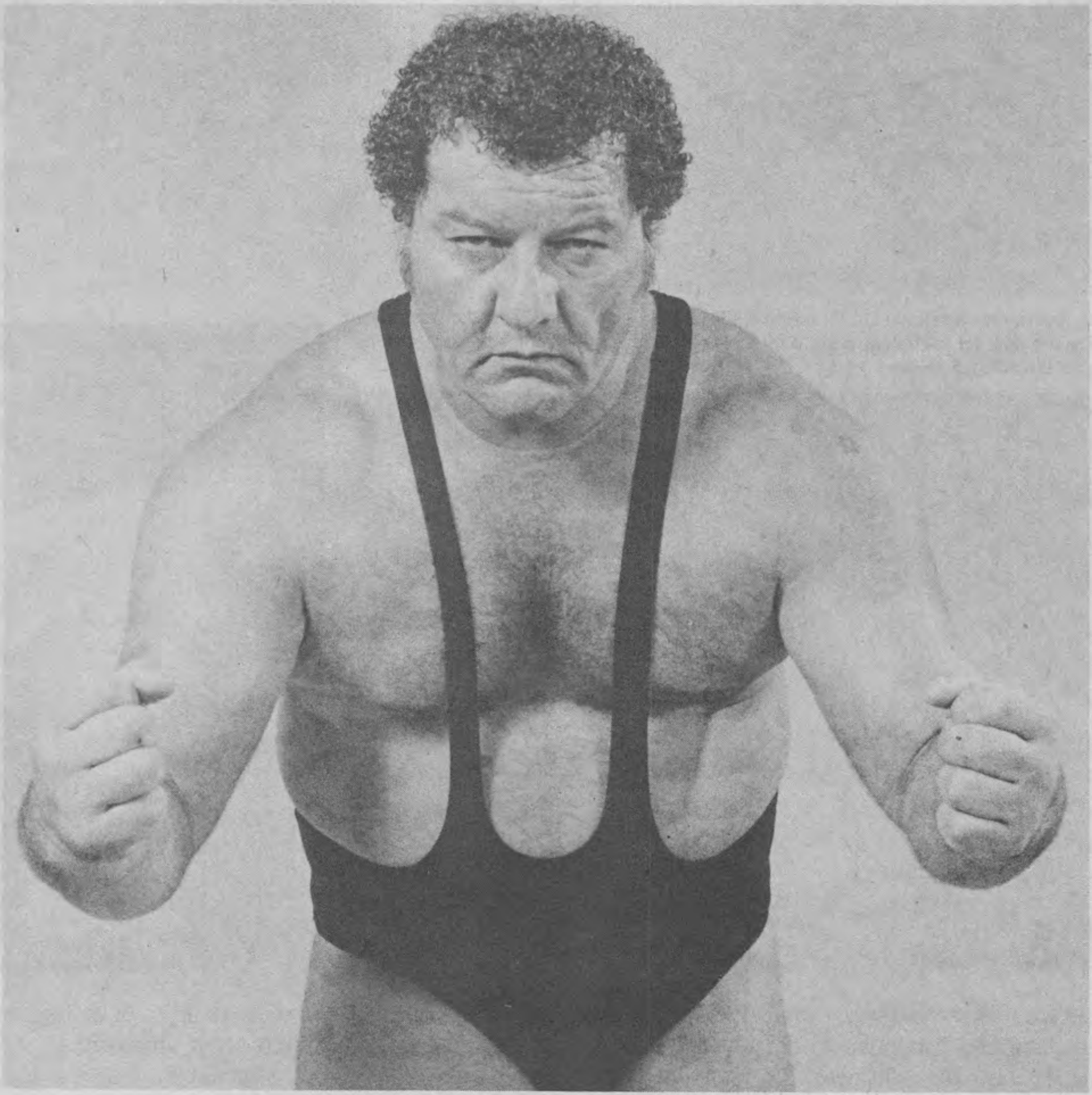
"So he won the tournament not because he was better than the other wrestlers, but because he was much better than anyone thought he was. Larry tricked himself into the title.

"We assumed that was his big coup. He won the title by trickery. Now it was up to us to beat him. It didn't seem impossible. It's still not impossible, but it's tough to bet against him."

That is due to Zbyszko's third part of his plan. He learned more about his opponents than his opponents learned about him. He never let anyone see the limits of his abilities; he revealed just enough to

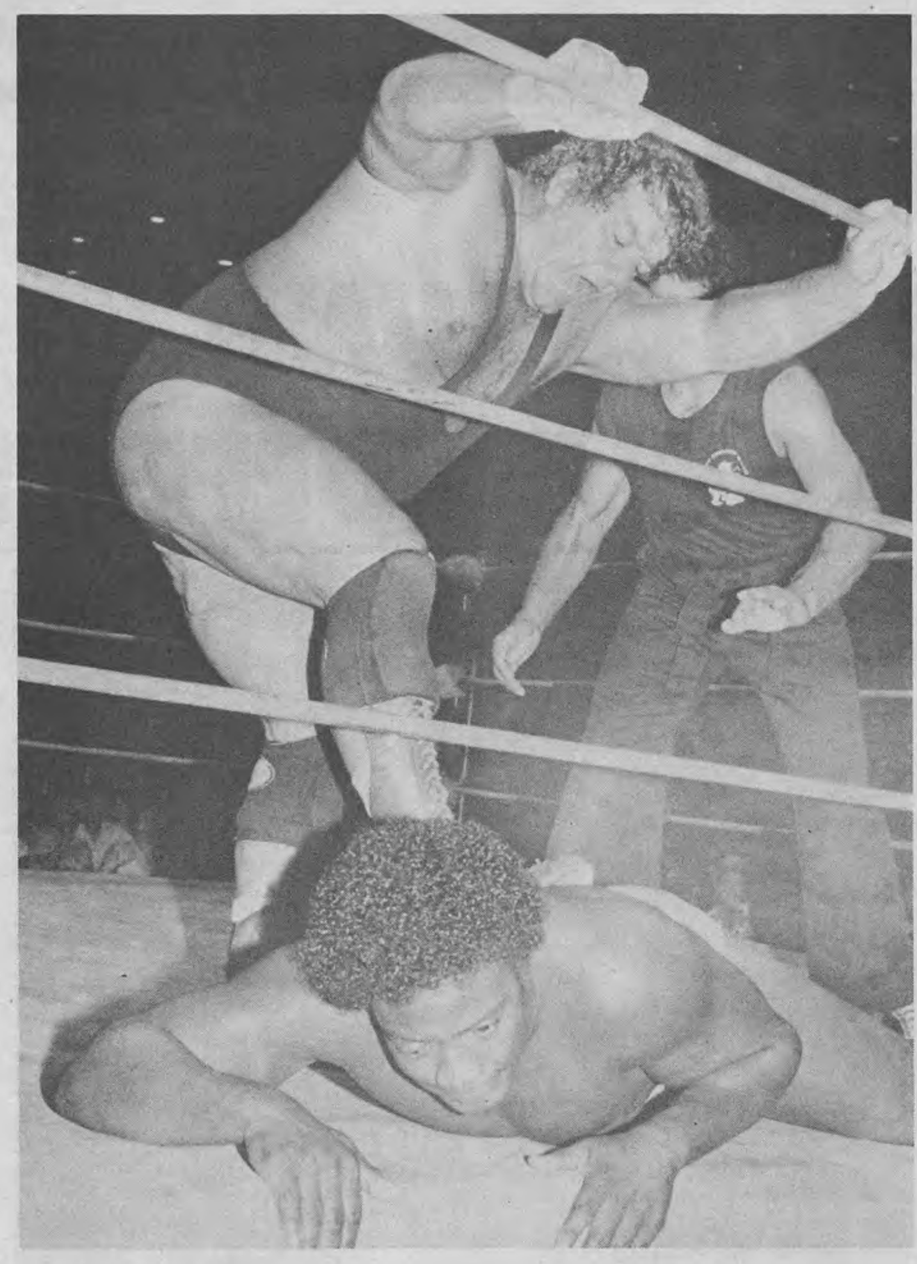
(Continued on page 48)

Back To Bruisin'
WHY BOB SWEETAN IS WRESTLING'S MOST HATED MAN



Photos by Jimmy Suzuki

Fans all over the Southwest adored Bob Sweetan. The rugged grappler was a hero to many thousands. Then fate twisted him around, destroyed his hopes and turned him into a raging rulebreaker. All that's left now are too many burned bridges and the hatred between Sweetan and the fans



Sweetan, after being deprived the opportunity to wrestle for the Southwest title, has taken his frustrations out on his opponents and the fans. Bruiser Bob uses the ropes for leverage as he stomps Sweet Brown Sugar (left). Sugar manages to get off a dropkick (above), but his feet are no match for a swinging chair (bottom left).

THE DEW SPARKLED on the grass as Bob Sweetan stood at the gravesite of his great-aunt. At this hour of the morning, there was an unearthly stillness about the cemetery. The only other person there was a gardener attending to the graves that demanded care. The attendant kept his distance from Sweetan. When you tower above the rest of the world as Sweetan does, it's natural for people to respect your privacy.

Sweetan looked at other graves where flowers lay, remembrances brought by family members. Bob smiled ruefully, remembering Aunt Lizzie's insistence that no one ever bring flowers to her grave. "I won't appreciate them," she said, "and beauty should be reserved for the living. If there is no afterlife, it'll be a total waste. If there is an afterlife, and I see someone bring-

(Continued on page 64)

DINO BRAVO: "I CAN TELL BOB BACKLUND HOW TO DEFEAT

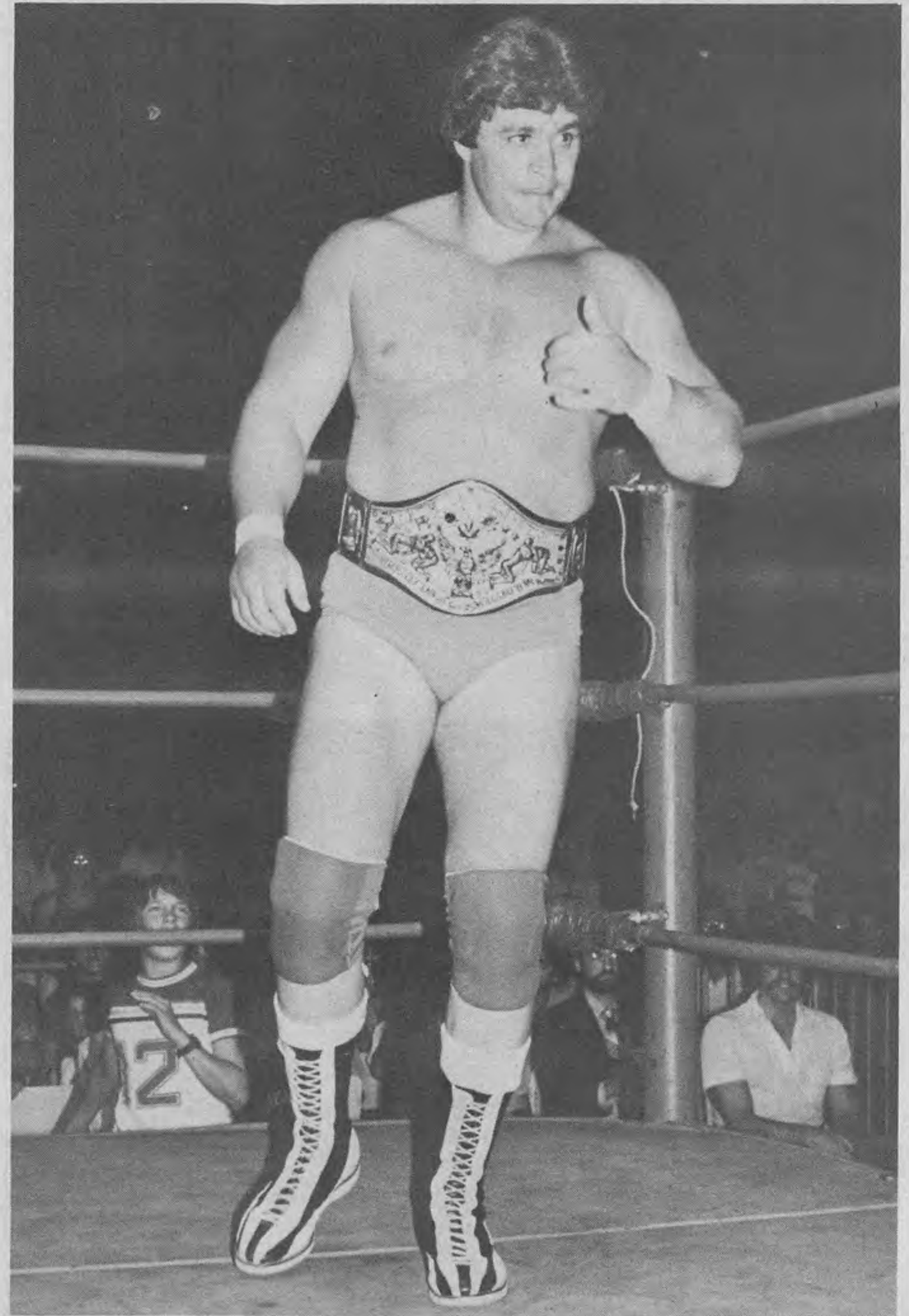
Photos by Craig Peters

ON HIS DESK rests a variety of folders, several videotapes, and more than three large spiral notebooks. Each is an important facet in the study Dino Bravo has made of Masked Superstar. As Bravo explains his examination of Masked Superstar, one can see the work and dedication that went into the research. It's a remarkable achievement.

"What I have compiled," Dino says quietly, "can save Bob Backlund's title. I can tell Bob Backlund how to defeat Masked Superstar. My study of Superstar shows that he is uniquely able to take the WWF title. Unless Backlund is aware of Superstar's many special abilities, Bob doesn't stand a chance of stopping him. I know that sounds melodramatic, but I can prove it. All I ask is that you don't print the particulars in your magazine."

The discussion of Dino's research took over five hours. After listening to his observations, studying the videotapes, and reading his notes, it became clear why he thinks Backlund is especially vulnerable to Masked Superstar. Dino's research was exhaustive and convincing.

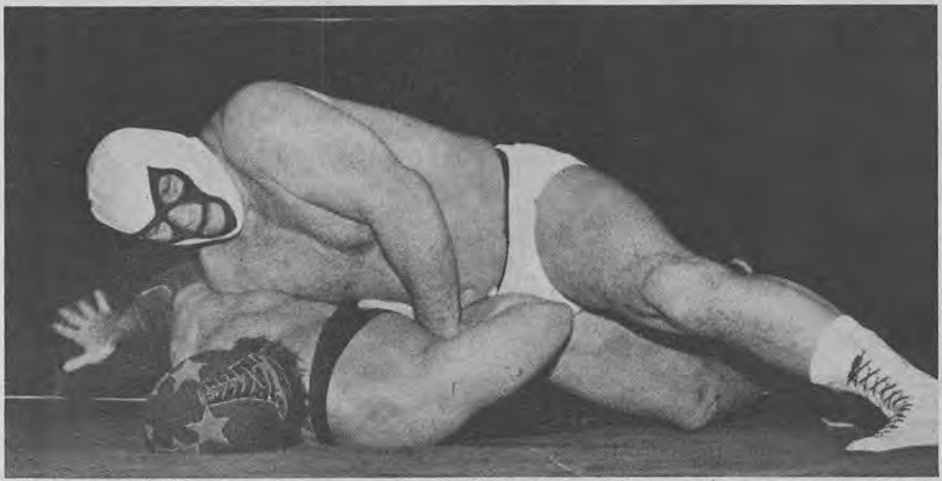
"I don't do this kind of research on every wrestler," Dino explains, "nobody could. Masked Superstar has always struck me as someone special. He has this incredible ability to hide his subtle movements so that they are ignored. I remember several years back when I was wrestling in Georgia. Guys would come into the dress-



Canadian International champion Dino Bravo has made a firsthand study of Masked Superstar's wrestling style and would like to pass his findings along to Bob Backlund.

As Masked Superstar goes after Bob Backlund's WWF title, it has been learned that one man knows more about Masked Superstar than any other person on earth. That man is Dino Bravo, and he's eager to share his knowledge with Backlund. What Dino knows could very well save Backlund's title!

MASKED SUPERSTAR"



Though Bravo asked us not to print the particulars of his special strategy, there is a discernible pattern to the photos on these pages. What is the common denominator between the strategy Bravo devised for Mr. Wrestling II a few years back (above) and what he himself is using against Masked Superstar (right and bottom right)?

ing room and couldn't understand why Masked Superstar kept beating them. I started to watch and discovered something incredible. Superstar starts out crude and gets cruder. His opponents match his style, figuring they're in a brawl. Then, when his opponents don't realize it, he gets cunning. His maneuvers are imaginative and perfectly executed. And he wins.

"So I started to chart his matches. His bouts against Mr. Wrestling II are classics. Mr. Wrestling II and I discussed Superstar, but he still didn't have complete success against him. I studied those matches, also. I discovered that Superstar controlled the rhythm of those matches. He was getting Mr. Wrestling II on the counteroffensive *all the time.* It was a brilliant exhibition of wrestling strategy.

"Then I saw Superstar against Tito Santana and Mil Mascaras, two very different kinds of wrestlers and both different from Mr. Wrestling II. The man who had the most success against Superstar was Mascaras. That's because Mil never allowed Superstar to take control. Even when Superstar was at his trickiest, Mascaras kept constantly moving. That's what made him conquer Superstar, that constant motion.

"Now, nobody can keep moving like Mascaras; it's suicidal to try. What I've developed are strategies that a wrestler of average speed and ability can utilize."

Backlund could benefit greatly from the information. Dino is will-

(Continued on page 62)

THE NIGHT THE AWA WORLD TITLE

Photos by Jimmy Suzuki & Alice Nelson

Mil Mascaras wrestled superbly against AWA World champion Nick Bockwinkel at Houston's Summit. Mil came very close to winning the title officially after executing this beautiful cross-bodyblock. He would later win the title, only to have it taken away.

WAS STOLEN FROM MIL MASCARAS

Mil Mascaras has achieved a degree of success that most professional wrestlers only dream about. The goal that Mascaras has yet to reach, however, is winning a world championship. In a match with AWA World champion Nick Bockwinkel, the popular masked star came as close as he ever has to that goal, and only a bizarre series of circumstances prevented him from reaching it

Mascaras, universally regarded as wrestling's master technician, sends Bockwinkel to the canvas with a vertical suplex.

Bockwinkel tries to pry apart Mascaras' legs to escape the scissorslock (above). The AWA champion will slide to the ropes before Mascaras' sleeperhold can take effect (below left). Bockwinkel's ribs are crushed by Mil's powerful legs (below right).

THE MASK TRIED to hide Mil Mascaras' feelings, but his dark, Latin eyes revealed his disappointment. His eyes looked down at the floor as he sat in the dressing room after his match with AWA World champion Nick Bockwinkel. The intensity usually seen in those eyes was replaced with the mournful look of a basset hound.

Chavo Guerrero was sitting next to Mascaras. He paced from one side of the room to the other, obviously thinking about the events that occurred only moments before. "I'm sorry, I'm really sorry," Chavo said. "It happened so fast. It was the first thing I thought of."

Mascaras got up, put a hand on each of Guerrero's shoulders, and pressed him into the seat he previously occupied. "I know you're sorry, Chavo, but don't worry, you were not at fault," he said. "Now, if you don't sit down and stop pacing, you're going to drive me crazy."

Once again, as has been the case so many times, Mascaras was denied a world championship. "It seems like every time I get a shot at the title, something strange happens," he said. "My career is an encyclopedia of controversial decisions."

Never, though, had he come closer than on this night in Houston's Summit. Mascaras was actually given the AWA belt. He danced in the ring and in the aisles with his fans, he held the belt high over his head in celebration. His eyes, alive and bright with joy, seemed to say, "This is my championship. I earned it, and I am proud of it."

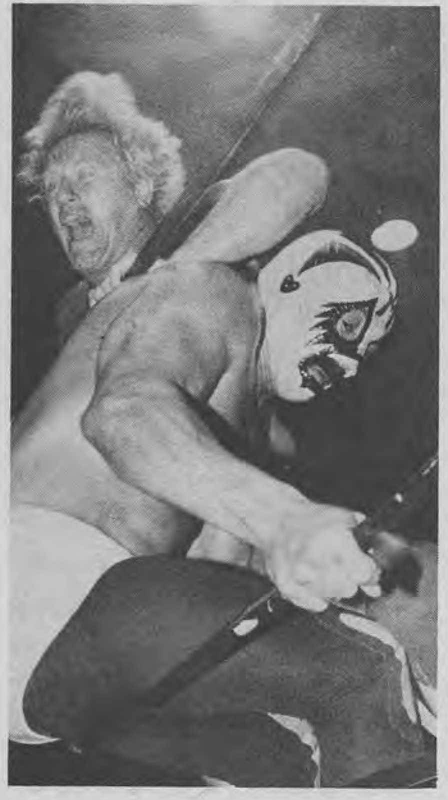
Mascaras did indeed earn that belt. He performed brilliantly in his bout with Bockwinkel. Rarely will Mascaras ever have an off-match, but on this night, pumped up by the excitement of the challenge ahead of him, he was even better than ever. He executed each maneuver in his repertoire perfectly and, most important, he was always in the right place at the right time.

Unfortunately, referee Nick Kozak was not.

Kozak, who had been doing a creditable job of honest and fair officiating, suddenly got caught in the middle of a three-way collision that left both the official and the champion unconscious. Mascaras covered Bockwinkel for the pin, but there was nobody to make the official count. Guerrero, who had been watching the action from ringside, ran into the ring, took Kozak's referee shirt, and counted Bockwinkel's shoulders to the

Mascaras applies tremendous pressure on Bockwinkel's upper arm and shoulder (above). Mil concentrates on remaining on the ropes as Nick tries to knee him out of the ring (below left). Bockwinkel takes advantage of one of Mascaras' few vulnerable moments (below right).

Referee Nick Kozak looks on as Mascaras and Bockwinkel engage in a test of strength. Moments later, Kozak would get too close to the action and be knocked unconscious.



canvas.

"It seemed like hours between each slap on the canvas," Mascaras recalled. "Finally, on the third count, I realized what was happening. I was realizing my dream. I didn't see that it was Chavo in the referee's shirt. I didn't notice that for a long time. I didn't see anything but the belt. Even before I had it in my hands, I could see it."

As Mascaras jumped up and down in celebration, waving the belt to all of his fans, Kozak made it to his feet. He awoke to see Mascaras with the title belt, Bockwinkel still on the canvas, and himself standing in the ring with no shirt on. He called for the bell to stop the chaotic celebration and then overruled the decision.

"It had to be the most disappointing moment of my career," Mascaras said. "I was blinded with happiness. As the bell rang, I suddenly saw everything I didn't see before. I realized that Chavo was wearing the referee's shirt. I saw the referee standing in the ring without a shirt. I saw the fans' faces. It must have hit them at the same time it hit me. They began to boo the referee.

"He was right, though," Mascaras continued. "Wearing a referee's shirt does not make Chavo a referee. He had no power to count the pin. I wish he had. Oh, God, do I wish he had. It's just unfortunate, very unfortunate for me."

And very *fortunate* for the AWA World champion. Bockwinkel once again held on to his belt in a controversial manner. Referee Kozak called the bout a "no contest."

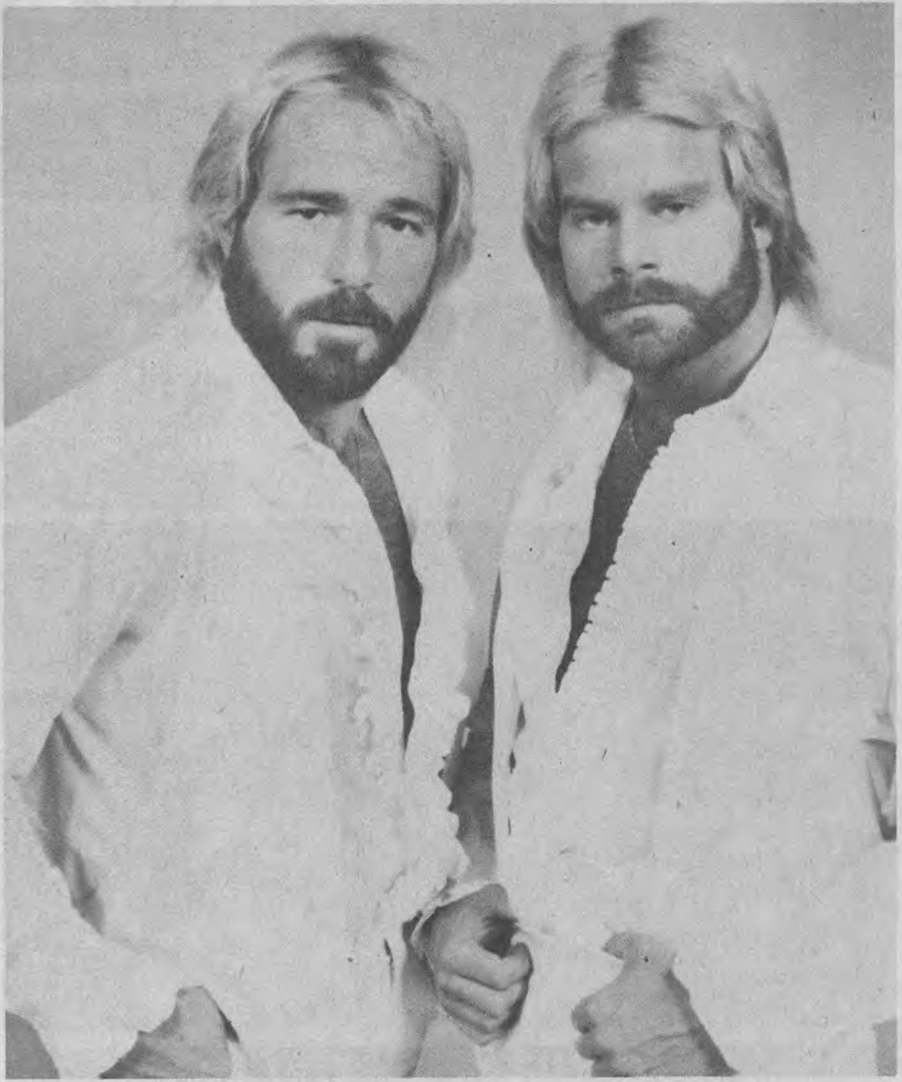
As Mascaras left The Summit through the press entrance, he was greeted by about 50 of his supporters. Never one to let his fans down, the "Man of a Thousand Masks" stopped, signed autographs, and talked to the people who had waited over an hour to see him. "I love these people," Mascaras said. "I love their adoration and their support. But at this point in my career, that's just not enough. I want to reach my goal of being a world champion. I have never failed to reach any goal I have set for myself. I want to be world champion, and I will. I might not have the belt, but tonight I proved that I could beat a champion. I *did* beat a champion.

"My time will come," Mascaras said as he stepped into a waiting car. "I know my time will come." □

Photos by Scott Romer

Steve Keirn and Stan Lane Rock Tennessee

EVERYBODY



PROFESSIONAL ATHLETES are not machines. They don't have little switches on their backs that can be turned on and off before and after matches. They are human beings whose mental well-being depends on their ability to separate their professional and private lives. Steve Keirn takes a passionate interest in enjoying his private life. He is not a machine, but he certainly enjoys playing with them.

Steve spends a great deal of time in the room he calls his "media room." Walking into the room, you might think you were walking into a space simulator. There are enough knobs and controls to keep an electronics wizard busy for days. The room is dominated by a four-foot video screen, connected to cable television, a videotape recorder, and a videodisc player.

Keirn's tag team partner and best friend, Stan Lane, had a childlike look of fascination as he turned knobs, connected this to that, and sampled each of the cable channels. Lane stopped at MTV, the cable video music channel.

WANTS THEM!

They are called "The Fabulous Ones," and Steve Keirn and Stan Lane live up to that name in arenas throughout the South. With elements of show business injected into their ring performance, the two stars have plans to flashdance all the way to the top of the tag team rankings

"We should watch that last Moondogs match again," Keirn said, grabbing a tape off of a shelf."

"Wait," Lane said as MTV video jockey Martha Quinn announced the next song. "They're gonna play it."

Keirn replaced the tape on the shelf and sat down next to his partner. He knew that Lane was referring to the Billy Squier song, "Everybody Wants You."

"It's exciting and it's fast paced," Lane said.

"Just like us," Keirn interjected.

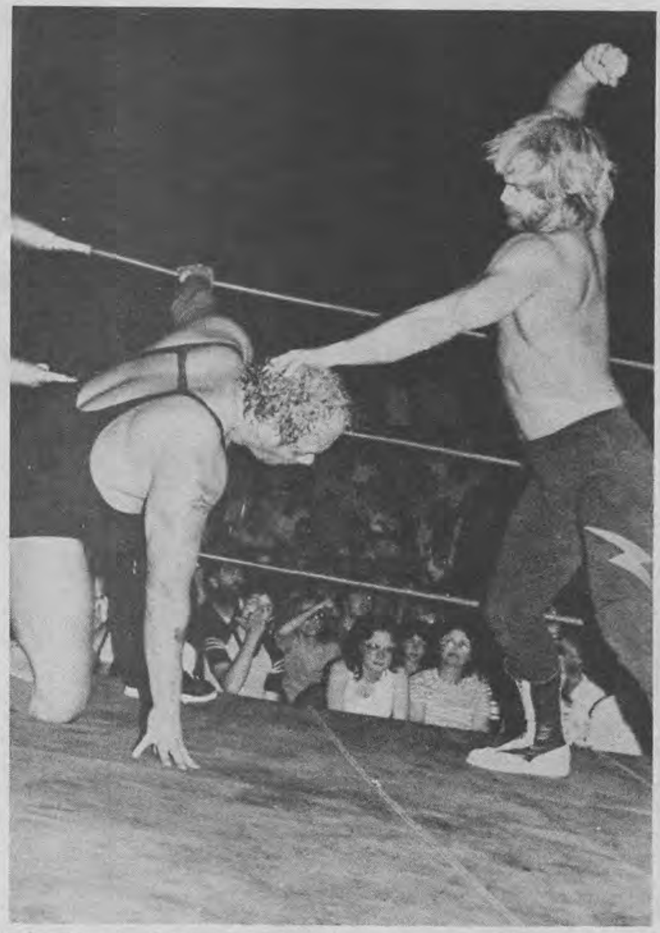
"And Squier can move," Lane said as the performer danced across the screen. "He should be a wrestler. Check out the footwork."

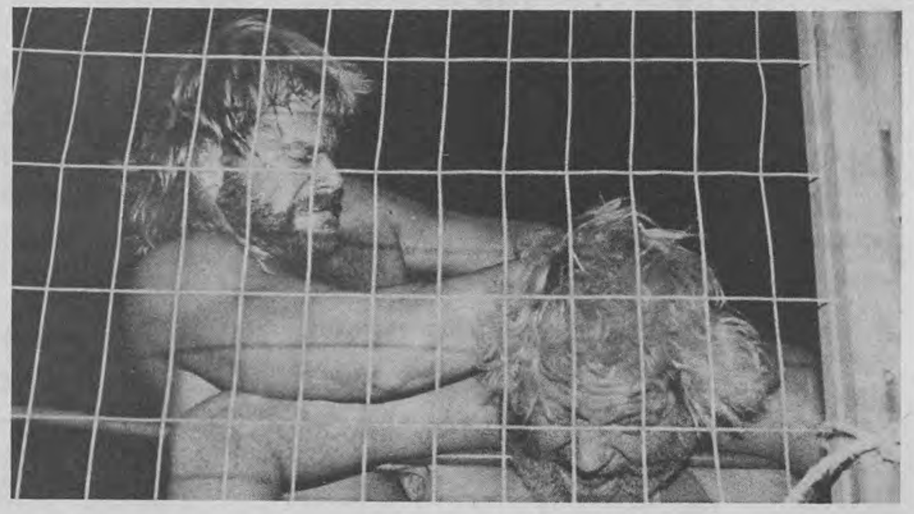
"The Fabulous Ones" have been using this song as their theme since first seeing the video. It fits them perfectly. Keirn and Lane might be the most sought-after tag team in the sport today. The promoters want them to fill their arenas, the fans want to watch their unique style of wrestling, and a number of other tag teams would like to prove their own competence by gaining a victory over the reigning AWA Southern tag team champions.

This is both wrestlers' first experience with superstardom. Keirn and Lane have enjoyed success in the ring, but never at this level. Lane said that self-promotion has a great deal to do with their overwhelming popularity.

"We have given the people something different," Lane said. "Of course, wrestling fans will always enjoy good wrestling action, but we've added something extra. Maybe some people would call it making a spectacle of ourselves, but the fans seem to enjoy it, and we love it."

The Fabulous Ones come into the ring wearing sequined tuxedo jackets with matching top hats. On occasion, they've been driven all the way to ringside in a limousine. But once the tuxedos come off and





Opposite top: Lane clubs the back of Duke Myers' head. Above left: Keirn and Lane combine to whip Executioner I across the ring. Above right: Keirn allows Moondog Spot to climb to the top of the cage before sending him crashing to the mat. Opposite left: Keirn traps The Dream Machine in a headlock. Opposite bottom: Lane strangles Moondog Rex with the top rope.

the car is gone, Keirn and Lane prove that they have the ability to back up their flashy image.

"We're following the pattern of one of the greatest names in sports, Muhammad Ali," Keirn said. "He told everyone he was 'The Greatest,' he acted like it, and he competed like it. Ali knew what he was doing. He made himself a name, and he backed up the image with his skills."

Lane backs Spot into a corner and unleashes a barrage of blows to the Moondog's midsection.

Keirn and Lane credit the refinement of their skills as a tag team to their current trainer, Jackie Fargo, whose idea it was to put the two wrestlers together. "I saw them training one day," said Fargo. "They used to spar together in the gym, and people would stop what they were doing to watch them, me included. I told them that with a little help from a guy who has been around, they could really fly as a team."

Fargo is much more than a just a guy who has been around. As a member of the Fabulous Fargos, Jackie and brothers Donnie and Roughhouse *were* tag team wrestling in the South for over 20 years. "We've watched films of the Fargos, and they were incredible," Lane said. "They were unique, way ahead of their time. We've taken a lot of what they did and worked it into our own style. The results have been great."

The Fabulous Ones have remained champions despite the talented teams that have been challenging them. They have successfully defended the belts against The Executioners, The Dream Team, The New York Dolls, The Moondogs, The Sheepherders, and The Masked Grapplers. They feel their ability at least matches that of any tag team in wrestling.

"Strictly based of our style," Keirn said, "I know we could beat the teams currently ranked above us. Take The Samoans, for example. They might be wild and they might be strong, but I think our speed would tire them and confuse them. They don't seem to be too much on the ball, if you know what I mean."

"The Road Warriors would be a challenge," Lane said. "They're huge, extremely powerful, and aggressive. What we would do against them is just run until they were tired out, and then use an aerial attack."

Keirn and Lane are anticipating a series of six-man tag team matches involving themselves and their mentor, Fargo. "We're looking forward to it," Lane said. "Jackie hasn't been in the ring for a while, but he trains with us, and he's in great shape. I can't wait for the fans to see this. They're gonna love it."

The Fabulous Ones have an enthusiasm for life, for their profession, and for people. And the crowds that watch them wrestle give them back a lot of enthusiasm in return. □

Beyond the Squared Circle

The Von Erichs relax with some music and copies of *Inside Wrestling* and *The Wrestler*.

National champion Larry Zbyszko shows *The Wrestler* photographer Scott Romer his boxing technique.

Ole Anderson gives *CBS News Nightwatch* host Felecia Teter a wrestling lesson before being interviewed.

Tommy Rich enjoys a spare moment with one of his most loyal supporters.

George Wells has some backstage fun with Banner Thomas and the Molly Hatchet rock band at St. Louis' Kiel Auditorium. Molly Hatchet played in one portion of the Kiel while the wrestling matches took place in another.

Banned from the arena, Bobby Heenan comes to ringside in disguise. Not quite, Bobby!

Dusty Rhodes poses with Nat and Sylvia Apter. Does that name sound familiar?

Jimmy Snuka does progressive resistance exercises to warm up for a match.

The Road Warriors, Hawk and Animal, show off their muscles in a hotel pool. Notice that there is nobody else in the water.

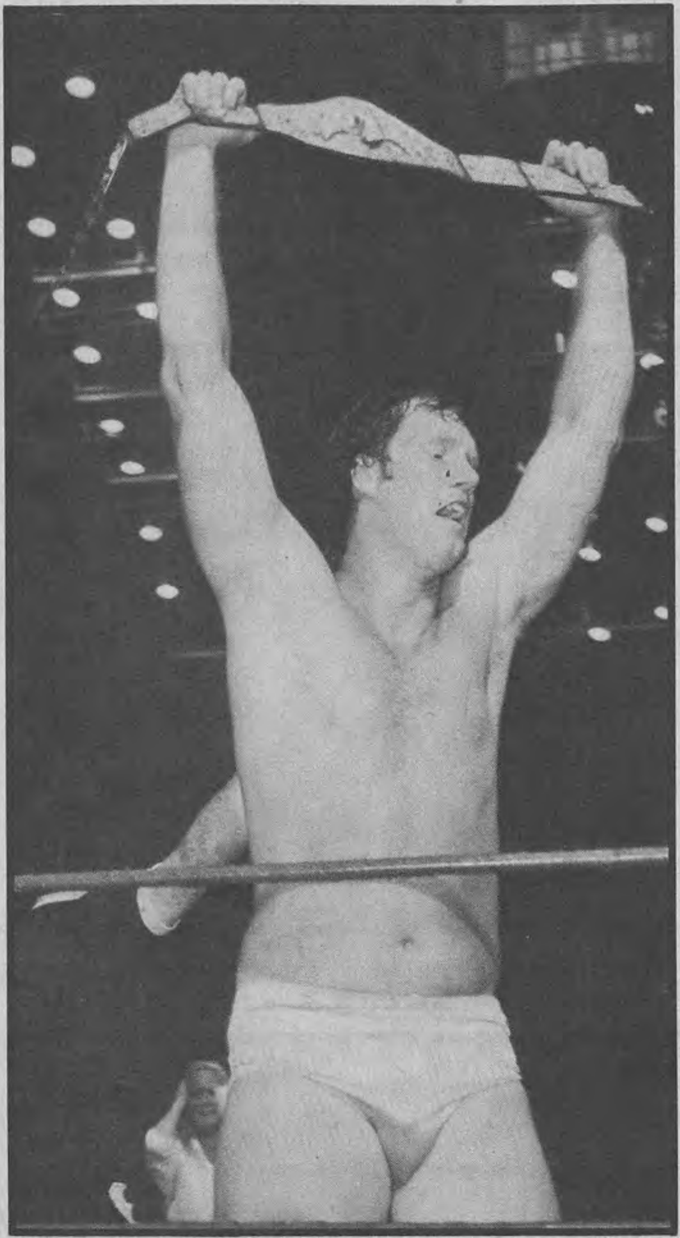
Former wrestler Tony Lanza, now one of the sport's top photographers, poses with Blackjack Mulligan.

Bruno Sammartino, still an extremely popular man, is interviewed by WTAJ's Rodger Wyland in Altoona, Pennsylvania.

Photos by Jimmy Suzuki & Buddy Myers

Jim Garvin and Sunshine

DAVID VON ERICH'S



David Von Erich hoists his newly won World Class title belt as Sunshine cries hysterically in the background (above left). Jim Garvin and Sunshine, forced to work on Von Erich's ranch for a day as a result of the loss, don't seem to know what to do with a fencepost digger (above right).

FARMHANDS FOR A DAY

Jim Garvin lost more than the World Class heavyweight title when David Von Erich pinned his shoulders to the canvas—he lost a great deal of self-respect as well. Because of the loss, Garvin, and his valet Sunshine, were subjected to humiliation as they have never known it

"Okay, Von Erich, what do you want me to do," Garvin says as he emerges from his car (above). A resentful Garvin and a worried-looking Sunshine take their instructions (right).

THE RED LINCOLN Continental Mark VI left behind a swirling cloud of dust as it roared down a dirt road in Texas. To the left: farmland. To the right: farmland. The passengers were leaving farmland behind them, and their ultimate destination was, quite naturally, a farm.

David Von Erich's farm. Well, to be absolutely precise, not a farm; more of a ranch.

"Farm, ranch, what the hell is the difference?" muttered Jim Garvin as he sat in the back seat of the Lincoln-Continental.

"On a farm, they raise crops," replied Sunshine, Garvin's valet. "Von Erich doesn't have any crops, so you don't have to worry about plowing any land today!"

"Thanks, I needed some reassurance," Garvin replied with sarcasm lacing every syllable.

"I can't believe we're out here in this godforsaken place. Look at it! I don't see anything around besides dirt and dust! What kind of action could they have here at night? What, do they all get together and watch the paint peel off their pickup trucks?"

Obviously, Garvin and Sunshine were not pleased at the prospect of doing a hard day's work. Sunshine squinted her eyes as she made a left turn, directing the car into the early morning sun.

"Listen, Jim, all we have to do is take care of a couple of chores, sweat a little bit . . ."

"I don't like to sweat if I don't have to."

". . . and we'll be out of there," Sunshine said. "I'm not too thrilled about this either, but there'll be camera crews there. We've got to show up. Besides, it was in your contract with Von Erich."

Garvin lifts a bale of hay as Sunshine takes a second off to wipe the sweat off her brow.

"Yeah, in my contract. Bah!"

Garvin had good reason to be disgusted. Sunshine was referring to a match that took place only days earlier in the Reunion Arena in Dallas. David Von Erich had challenged Garvin for the World Class heavyweight championship.

An added stipulation of the contract for that match was that the loser would have to serve as "valet for a day" for the winner.

David won that match, the World Class title, and the privilege of embarrassing Garvin and Sunshine in front of a national cable television network camera crew and several national magazine photographers.

With all the media personnel on hand, wrestling fans all over the world would have the opportunity to see coverage of Garvin's and Sunshine's day at the Von Erich ranch.

The digital clock on the dashboard of the car read 9:58 as Sunshine turned into the driveway of David's home. The media people huddled around the car as Garvin stepped out.

David smiled as he growled to

Garvin and Sunshine scrub down the dog as David relaxes in the background (above left). Garvin absolutely refused to shovel the stables (above right).

Garvin and Sunshine, "Get out of the car, you've got a lot of work to do today."

Garvin and Sunshine looked at each other. They were not pleased.

"The first thing you'll be doing today is digging new holes for fenceposts," David said. "Here's the tool. Get digging."

Garvin dug nearly two dozen holes for new fenceposts as the hot Texas sun sizzled. Sunshine wiped the sweat from Garvin's brow every few minutes. When Garvin tried to take a break, David fired his shotgun into the air and screamed, "No resting, you slackers! Back to work!"

With the digging complete, the next task was hauling hay from the fields to the stable where David's horses are kept. David drove Garvin and Sunshine to the middle of the field, but when Garvin attempted to place a bale on the back of the truck, David said, "Oh no, you two drag it back to the stable yourselves. No help from the truck. I want to see you sweat."

Garvin and Sunshine looked at each other. They were not pleased.

The next job was to give David's dog a shampoo.

"This is the ugliest, grimiest mutt I've ever seen in my life," screamed Sunshine as she began lathering the dog. Garvin was silent. David sat nearby in a lounge chair, enjoying the entire scenario.

"Why is this dog so filthy?" Sunshine asked.

"He was probably playing in the stable," David replied. "It's pretty dirty in there."

"I'd hate to see that stable," Garvin muttered to Sunshine as he hosed down the dog, completing the shampooing job.

"Next I want you to shovel out the stable," David said with a smile.

Garvin and Sunshine looked at each other. They were not pleased.

"I've been a little busy lately, and I haven't had a chance to clean up after the horses for a couple of weeks. Here you go, Jimmy!"

David placed a shovel in Garvin's hand. Garvin looked at the mess on the stable floor and threw the shovel back at Von Erich.

"I'm not cleaning up any stable floor, least of all in front of all these cameras."

"You lost the match, Garvin, it's in the contract. Get to it!"

"The hell I will," Garvin screamed, and he pushed David to the floor.

Von Erich jumped to his feet, but Garvin and Sunshine were already out of the stable and halfway back to their Lincoln.

"Forget it," David said to the reporters, "might as well let them go. They did enough for one day. At least they know what it means now to put in an honest day's work."

The Lincoln-Continental left a swirling cloud of dust behind as the two sped away into the distance, trying to leave the humiliation of being David Von Erich's servants for a day far behind.

Inside the car, Garvin and Sunshine were too tired to talk. They were relieved that one of the most embarrassing days of their lives had finally ended. Until both looked down at their shoes, which were covered with . . . well, the kind of stuff that you find in stables.

Garvin and Sunshine looked at each other. They were not pleased. □

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating more than 150 wrestlers in 14 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important—and respected—ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans

Not quite Top 10 material. Greg Valentine will no doubt experience mixed emotions when he looks over the ratings on the following two pages.

He'll be pleased to see himself in the number one spot in both the NWA and Mid-Atlantic categories. These rankings are based primarily on the fact that he has held and defended the U.S. title for several months, facing many prime opponents in the process.

Greg Valentine

He'll no doubt also be pleased to find himself rated number five in Georgia. This rating comes as a result of Valentine having followed Roddy Piper from the Mid-Atlantic and making himself a powerful force on the Georgia scene in a very short time.

He might also smile at the fact that he's achieved a number five rating in the Most Hated category. Although Valentine wears the U.S. belt, the manner in which he took that belt—mutilating former U.S. champion Roddy Piper's ear—remains despised by fans around the world.

So with all these high rankings, why doesn't Greg Valentine find his name among the Top 10?

"The NWA and Mid-Atlantic rankings, where Valentine is concerned, are virtually automatic," *The Wrestler* Senior Editor Bill Apter explained. "Valentine holds the U.S. title, and we can't do anything about that. And if it was solely up to me, he'd be rated number one in Most Hated, as well.

"But it takes more than just a belt to be considered for the Top 10," Apter continued. "It takes inherent skill, application of that skill, a superior won-loss record for the past month, and a certain level of earned respect. Valentine has some inherent skill, but all he applies to his opponents is brutality. He has gained no respect whatsoever from the ratings committee. That's why he's not in the Top 10."

And that's an explanation that Valentine may not be pleased about at all.

Comparatively speaking . . . Part of what makes professional wrestling ratings so interesting for the fans is being able to compare this month's ratings with last month's ratings . . . or last year's, for that matter.

From time to time, "Ratings Analysis" will select several wrestlers and compare their rankings from last month to those of this month, noting what all fans should be aware of: the relative movements of particular wrestlers within categories over a period of time.

Rick Martel

Rick Martel drops from number one in the AWA to number four due to his involvement in tag team matches with Dino Bravo and his lack of title shots against Nick Bockwinkel . . . **Hulk Hogan**, not rated in the AWA last month, makes his reappearance at the number two position after winning his first four matches upon his return to the U.S. . . . **Pistol Pez Whatley**, in light of several major victories in the Georgia area, jumps from number eight to number six . . . **Playboy Buddy Rose**, sporting a new wrestling philosophy in the Pacific Northwest, enters the Most Popular ratings this month at number seven . . . Because of the aid he has given wrestlers such as Dusty Rhodes, Barry Windham, and Blackjack Mulligan across Florida, **Angelo Mosca** jumps from the number eight spot to number five in that state . . . No longer the number one contender for Bob Backlund's WWF title, **Sgt. Slaughter** drops three notches to number four in the WWF . . . In a move that won't be welcomed by his legions of fans, **Jimmy Snuka** has been dropped from the Top 10 completely, having been rated in the number nine spot last month, because of his singleminded involvement in his feud with Magnificent Muraco. □

Angelo Mosca

OFFI WRESTLIN

Ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and the inherent skill of each wrestler. These ratings are compiled by the editors and are universally recognized as official.

Nick Bockwinkel

Barry Windham

TOP 10

1—HARLEY RACE
253, Kansas City, MO
2—ANDRE THE GIANT
497, Grenoble, France
3—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
4—NICK BOCKWINKEL
245, Beverly Hills, CA
5—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
6—BOB BACKLUND
242, Princeton, MN
7—MIL MASCARAS
242, Mexico City, Mexico
8—DINO BRAVO
248, Montreal, Quebec
9—HULK HOGAN
320, Venice Beach, CA
10—BARRY WINDHAM
230, Sweetwater, TX

MOST POPULAR

1—ANDRE THE GIANT
497, Grenoble, France
2—DUSTY RHODES
302, Austin, TX
3—RODDY PIPER
231, Scotland
4—JUNKYARD DOG
260, New Orleans, LA
5—JIMMY SNUKA
250, Fiji Islands
6—TOMMY RICH
238, Hendersonville, TN
7—PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE
245, Minneapolis, MN
8—KERRY VON ERICH
251, Denton, TX
9—BARRY WINDHAM
230, Sweetwater, TX
10—BOB BACKLUND
242, Princeton, MN

MOST HATED

1—BOB SWEETAN
285, Round Rock, TX
2—HACKSAW REED
249, Kansas City, MO
3—LARRY ZBYSZKO
240, Pittsburgh, PA
4—RON BASS
285, Pampa, FL
5—GREG VALENTINE
243, Seattle, WA
6—TED DiBIASE
247, Omaha, NE
7—KEVIN SULLIVAN
235, Boston, MA
8—BUZZ SAWYER
240, St. Petersburg, FL
9—MAGNIFICENT MURACO
262, Sunset Beach, HI
10—ABDULLAH THE BUTCHER
360, Sudan

NWA and AWA ratings are compiled with the assistance of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters. "Most Popular" and "Most Hated" ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestling fans and on mail that comes to our offices.

TAG TEAMS

1—JACK & JERRY BRISCO
Combined Weight: 455 pounds
2—KEN PATERA & CRUSHER BLACKWELL
Combined Weight: 710 pounds
3—THE ROAD WARRIORS
Combined Weight: 540 pounds
4—ELIJAH AKEEM & KAREEM MUHAMMAD
Combined Weight: 578 pounds
5—TERRY ALLEN & HACKSAW DUGGAN
Combined Weight: 525 pounds
6—RUFUS R. JONES & BUGSY McGRAW
Combined Weight: 553 pounds
7—THE SAMOANS
Combined Weight: 598 pounds
8—THE VON ERICHS*
*Combined Weight: 752 pounds**
9—STEVE KEIRN & STAN LANE
Combined Weight: 479 pounds
10—PAT PATTERSON & PIERRE LEFEBVRE
Combined Weight: 476 pounds

NWA

World Champion:
HARLEY RACE
253, Kansas City, MO

1—GREG VALENTINE
243, Seattle, WA
2—RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
3—LARRY ZBYSZKO
240, Pittsburgh, PA
4—RUFUS R. JONES
287, Boston, MA
5—RON BASS
285, Pampa, TX
6—JOS LeDUC
280, Godbout, Quebec
7—MR. WRESTLING II
232, Atlanta, GA
8—SUPER DESTROYER
271, parts unknown
9—DAVID VON ERICH
247, Denton, TX
10—BOB ARMSTRONG
229, Marietta, GA

AWA

World Champion:
NICK BOCKWINKEL
245, Beverly Hills, CA

1—WAHOO McDANIEL
260, Midland, TX
2—HULK HOGAN
320, Venice Beach, CA
3—MR. SAITO
247, Japan
4—RICK MARTEL
236, Quebec City, Quebec
5—KEN PATERA
256, Portland, OR
6—MAD DOG VACHON
225, Algeria
7—CRUSHER BLACKWELL
474, Stone Mountain, GA
8—JESSE VENTURA
270, Muscle Beach, CA
9—GREG GAGNE
220, Robinsdale, MN
10—BARON VON RASCHKE
271, Germany

CIAL
G RATINGS

Below are the ratings for the top regional wrestling areas of the country. These ratings are based on nationwide surveys of wrestlers, promoters, and reporters.

WWF

Champion:
BOB BACKLUND
242, Princeton, MN

1—**MASKED SUPERSTAR** *282, Atlanta, GA*
2—**MAGNIFICENT MURACO** *262, Sunset Beach, HI*
3—**JIMMY SNUKA** *250, Fiji Islands*
4—**SGT. SLAUGHTER** *310, Paris Island, SC*
5—**JOHN STUDD** *364, Washington, DC*
6—**TITO SANTANA** *245, Mission, TX*
7—**ROCKY JOHNSON** *244, Washington, DC*
8—**IVAN KOLOFF** *249, Russia*
9—**IVAN PUTSKI** *242, Krakow, Poland*
10—**TONY ATLAS** *247, Roanoke, VA*

GEORGIA

1—**LARRY ZBYSZKO** *240, Pittsburgh, PA*
2—**MR. WRESTLING II** *232, Atlanta, GA*
3—**TOMMY RICH** *238, Hendersonville, TN*
4—**BUZZ SAWYER** *240, St. Petersburg, FL*
5—**GREG VALENTINE** *243, Seattle, WA*
6—**PEZ WHATLEY** *238, El Paso, TX*
7—**RODDY PIPER** *231, Scotland*
8—**RONNIE GARVIN** *231, Montreal, Quebec*
9—**BRETT WAYNE** *242, St. Petersburg, FL*
10—**OLE ANDERSON** *256, Minneapolis, MN*

FLORIDA

1—**RON BASS** *285, Pampa, TX*
2—**JOS LeDUC** *280, Godbout, Quebec*
3—**DUSTY RHODES** *302, Austin, TX*
4—**BARRY WINDHAM** *230, Sweetwater, TX*
5—**ANGELO MOSCA** *309, Caledou, Ontario*
6—**MIKE GRAHAM** *232, Tampa, FL*
7—**KEVIN SULLIVAN** *235, Boston, MA*
8—**THE PURPLE HAZE** *235, Buffalo, NY*
9—**SCOTT McGHEE** *220, Shipley, England*
10—**OX BAKER** *309, Waterloo, IA*

MID-ATLANTIC

1—**GREG VALENTINE** *243, Seattle, WA*
2—**RUFUS R. JONES** *287, Boston, MA*
3—**RODDY PIPER** *231, Scotland*
4—**BUGSY McGRAW** *245, New York, NY*
5—**JIMMY VALIANT** *251, New York, NY*
6—**DORY FUNK, JR.** *244, Amarillo, TX*
7—**BOB ORTON, JR.** *245, Kansas City, KS*
8—**JACK BRISCO** *232, Blackwell, OK*
9—**THE GREAT KABUKI** *252, Singapore*
10—**DICK SLATER** *235, Tampa, FL*

WORLD CLASS

1—**JIM GARVIN** *235, Tampa, FL*
2—**DAVID VON ERICH** *247, Denton, TX*
3—**KEVIN VON ERICH** *254, Denton, TX*
4—**MICHAEL HAYES** *255, Marietta, GA*
5—**KERRY VON ERICH** *251, Denton, TX*
6—**MIL MASCARAS** *242, Mexico City, Mexico*
7—**KAMALA** *360, Uganda*
8—**ICEMAN PARSONS** *242, St. Louis, MO*
9—**BUDDY ROBERTS** *247, Del City, OK*
10—**TERRY GORDY** *289, Chatanooga, TN*

MID-SOUTH

1—**HACKSAW REED** *249, Kansas City, MO*
2—**JUNKYARD DOG** *260, New Orleans, LA*
3—**HACKSAW DUGGAN** *280, New York, NY*
4—**MIL MASCARAS** *242, Mexico City, Mexico*
5—**MR. WRESTLING II** *232, Atlanta, GA*
6—**KING KONG BUNDY** *420, Atlantic City, NJ*
7—**MR. FUJI** *232, Japan*
8—**TED DiBIASE** *247, Omaha, NE*
9—**KAMALA** *360, Uganda*
10—**TERRY ALLEN** *245, Chesapeake, VA*

SOUTHWEST

1—**ADRIAN ADONIS** *251, New York, NY*
2—**TULLY BLANCHARD** *235, San Antonio, TX*
3—**BOB SWEETAN** *285, Round Rock, TX*
4—**ERIC EMBRY** *225, Lexington, KY*
5—**BOBBY JAGGERS** *255, Dunlap, KS*
6—**SCOTT CASEY** *235, Amarillo, TX*
7—**TIGER CONWAY, JR.** *230, Houston, TX*
8—**STAN HANSEN** *285, Borger, TX*
9—**SWEET BROWN SUGAR** *226, Dallas, TX*
10—**AL PEREZ** *234, Tampa, FL*

NORTHWEST

1—**CURT HENNIG** *235, Minneapolis, MN*
2—**THE ASSASSIN** *240, parts unknown*
3—**PLAYBOY BUDDY ROSE** *245, Minneapolis, MN*
4—**RIP OLIVER** *245, Tampa, FL*
5—**BILLY JACK** *245, Portland, OR*
6—**AL MADRIL** *235, Los Angeles, CA*
7—**RON RITCHIE** *238, New York, NY*
8—**MATT BORNE** *240, Milwaukie, OR*
9—**BRIAN ADIDAS** *238, Dallas, TX*
10—**CHIEF TAPU** *228, Samoa*

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LARRY ZBYSZKO

(Continued from page 29)

win. It was a brilliant exhibition of wrestling cunning. By the time his opponents realized what was happening, Larry had wrestled all the top contenders. Then came the time for the most important part of his plan.

It came at a press conference he held recently. Zbyszko announced he would only wrestle opponents he chose to meet. After all, he argued, he beat all the officially designated contenders. Now he was exercising his right to choose his opponents.

Zbyszko then announced his list of prospective foes. Not one had ever achieved higher than preliminary status. If Zbyszko got his way, he could hold the title forever. It would also render the National title an international disgrace.

As Larry knew it would, the NWA reacted immediately. The alliance denied Zbyszko the right to choose his opponents. Zbyszko countered with a history of the title, proving champions have the privilege of chooisng opponents after defeating all prominent contenders. The case immediately went to court. This is just where Larry wanted it.

As long as he can tie the title up in court, he controls it. Though he may have to wrestle a top contender and lose, the court may overturn the decision. NWA lawyers privately admit Zbyszko does have a case, though he probably won't win. If he loses the title in the ring before the case is settled, the new champion will always have to worry about the court's decision. Officials fear the controversy will discourage top grapplers from competing for the National title. Zbyszko will dominate by forfeit.

So far, the top wrestlers in the Southeast have refused to be swayed by Zbyszko's tactics. They have signed a pledge promising to wrestle for the National title. They have also pledged not to refer to

Zbyszko demonstrates his creativity as he squeezes Pistol Pez Whatley's head while applying a full-nelson. The "New Living Legend" nearly succeeds in revealing the identity of the popular Wrestling II (opposite page).

the suit in public, depriving Zbyszko of the publicity he so desperately wants. That is why none of Zbyszko's enemies can be quoted about this turn of events. They have all taken a vow of silence about the subject.

As for Zbyszko, he's too pleased with himself to bother with being interviewed. He gloried in his press conference and that's as far as he wishes to go. It's in the hands of his lawyers and they're busy making him the most powerful National champion in history.

It has occurred to Zbyszko that he will destroy the National title. Larry admits that much. He doesn't care. The championship's history and honor mean nothing to him. He has said, "If this title stops making me money, there's always another one. I care about the National champion as much as the officials and fans care about me."

Friends who knew Larry when he was the popular young WWF grappler say the man has soured since his feud with Bruno Sammartino. It's as if he wants to bring down wrestling in revenge for his own personal disappointments. With the National title, he may succeed in bringing down one of wrestling's most treasured championships. ☐

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WHAT'S HAPPENING

(Continued from page 8)

tunity to compete against Super D. I would think he would jump at the chance to wrestle me for the World title, but so far he hasn't made himself available for a match. Still, I'm looking forward to wrestling him. I feel he would really put me to the test and make me sweat a bit, something my recent competition hasn't been able to achieve."

Kevin Sullivan and **The Purple Haze** are reportedly negotiating to wrestle in the Mid-Atlantic area, and that brings one very big question to mind: Will they try to bring former disciple **Jake Roberts** back into their fold? We spoke to Roberts about this situation, but as soon as we mentioned Sullivan's name, Roberts refused to answer any further questions. Roberts' manager, **Paul Jones**, told us that Sullivan has been in touch with him regarding the selling price of Jake's contract. Jones maintains that Roberts' contract is not for sale right now, but he's been known to sell contracts in the past when offered the right amount of money. Should Sullivan be able to make Roberts an offer he can't refuse, the future could be very dark indeed for Jake Roberts.

With Kevin Sullivan supposedly returning to the Mid-Atlantic, what lies ahead for Jake Roberts?

Tony Atlas is back in the WWF area, and our correspondents have reported that he is in the gym regularly with **Rocky Johnson**. Curiously enough, we've heard that Johnson has also been spending a great deal of time in the gym with **Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka.** Nobody knows yet whether Johnson will be teaming regularly with Atlas or Snuka, but obviously he's looking for a suitable partner. There's no question that the eventual team will have as their number one target the WWF tag team champions, **The Samoans**. "Bring 'em on, we won't lose any sleep," boasts the Samoans' WWF manager **Capt. Lou Albano**. "Snuka and Johnson, or Atlas and Johnson, or Johnson and Johnson, I don't care who the tag team is, my Samoans, my vicious Samoans, my wild Samoans, will pound them into dust. The Samoans reign supreme in the WWF, daddy, now and forever!"

Gary Hart and **Jimmy Hart** have more in common than their last name: They're both managers who are despised by the fans. From Georgia to Tennessee, mere mention of the Hart name can bring even the most placid wrestling fan to a point of extreme anger. But up north, in Calgary, Alberta, the Hart name commands a great deal of respect. **Bret Hart**, **Bruce Hart**, and **Keith Hart**, the three sons of **Stu Hart**, are among the most respected scientific wrestlers in all of Canada.

Dory Funk Jr. is talking to promoters in Florida about returning to wrestle in their area. Some of Dory's greatest victories have taken place in the Sunshine State, in-

cluding his NWA World title victory over **Gene Kiniski** in Tampa back in early 1969. "The real reason I am contemplating returning to Florida is that I'm getting fed up listening to blubber boy **Dusty Rhodes** shooting his mouth off about me," Funk says. "He's claiming that the reason I lost the Mid-Atlantic title to **Rufus R. Jones** is because he advised Jones on how to beat me. That's a load of bull! Rufus had a good night and I had a bad one. That's all. Period. Rhodes wants all the credit. I'll give him credit, I'll go to Florida, win the Southern title, and ram the belt right down his fat throat."

Mil Mascaras is fuming about the fact that **Mr. Fuji** didn't show up for their scheduled match in Houston. **Gen. Skandor Akbar**, Fuji's manager in the Mid-South area, says the reason Fuji couldn't make it was because he was injured. Mil has tried to reschedule the match, but the Japanese martial arts expert refuses. "It's a waste to wrestle Mascaras," Fuji maintains. "I don't know why I agreed to wrestle him in the first place. Wrestling him will get me nowhere. I have no time for him."

Mil Mascaras was very upset when Mr. Fuji pulled out of their Houston match. Mascaras' attempts to reschedule the match have been futile.

And that's what's happening. See you at the matches! ☐

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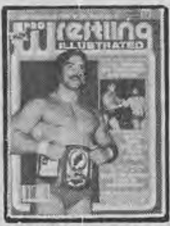
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CORRESPONDENTS REPORTS

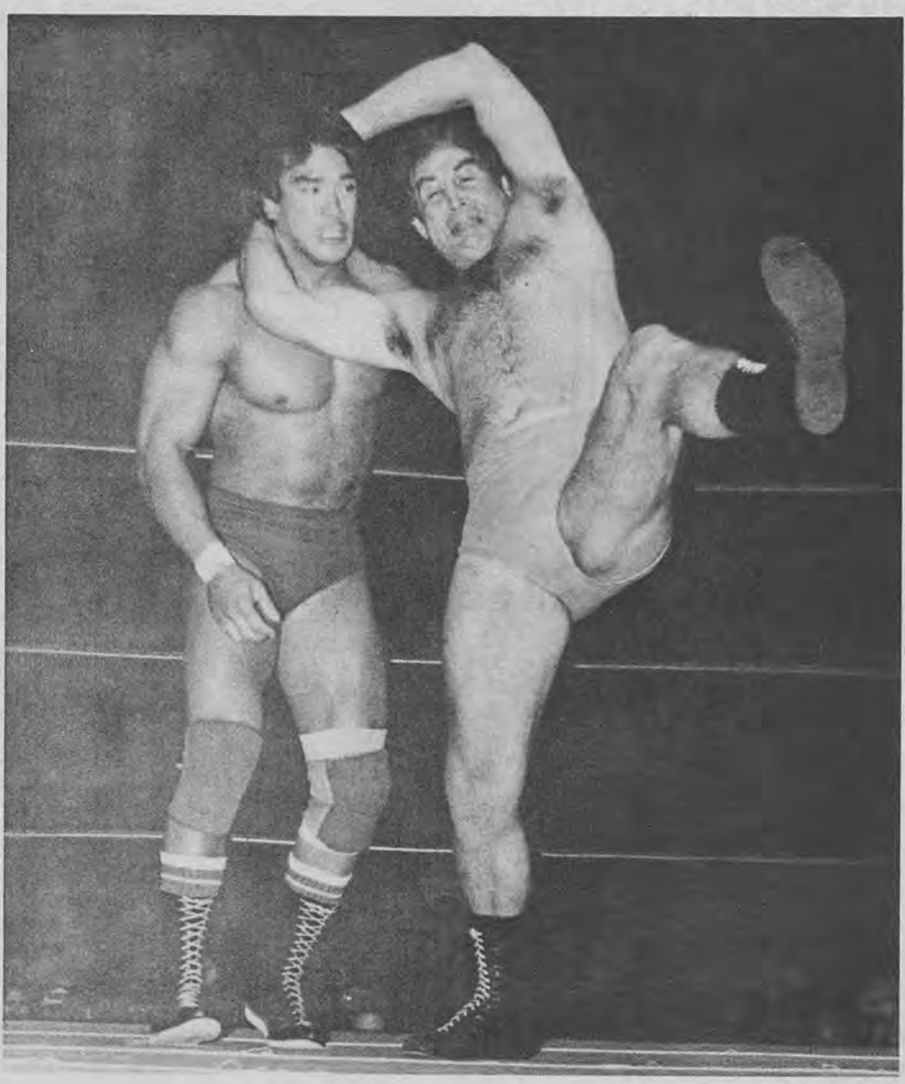
(Continued from page 10)

minute mark, when "Wildfire" executed a piledriver to Sawyer and rode that momentum on to victory.

In other bouts, Bruno Sammartino Jr. beat Larry Zbyszko by disqualification ... The Road Warriors defeated Mr. Wrestling II and Brett Wayne ... Ron Garvin beat Bob Roop ... Mr. Wrestling drew with Rick Rood.

STAFFORD, VA—*Corresponent:* Calley Farmer—In the evening's main event, the NWA World tag team champions, Jack and Jerry Brisco, took on Rick Steamboat and former NWA World champ Ric Flair in a non-title match. The Briscos were immediately made aware of the quality of their opposition, as Steamboat and Flair were dominant from the beginning. After 10 minutes of action, the Briscos began to resort to illegal tactics and blatant double-teaming. Flair suffered a huge gash on his forehead when his head was slammed repeatedly into the steel ringpost. The champions then double-bodyslammed Flair onto the arena floor. Flair used his entire reserve of strength to return to the ring to tag a fired-up Steamboat, who took on both Briscos. Steamboat had Jack covered for a possible pin, but Jerry entered the ring illegally and

Jack Brisco kicks his leg high to gain the momentum needed to snapmare Rick Steamboat.



broke it up. Suddenly, all four men were in the ring at once, and in the chaos, Steamboat caught a stunned Jack Brisco with a flying karate thrust off the top turnbuckle for the victory.

In other bouts, Bugsy McGraw defeated One Man Gang . . . The Assassin beat Mike Davis . . . Sgt. Goulet defeated Mark Flemming.

TULSA, OK—*Correspondent:* Jay C. Rubenstein—Tulsa had not seen a wrestling show this exciting in a long while. In the main event, Hacksaw Jim Duggan chal-

Kamala can blame his manager, Gen. Skandor Akbar, for his loss to Hacksaw Jim Duggan.

lenged Kamala, the Ugandan Giant. Duggan dominated with brawling tactics, but Kamala retaliated with chops, nerve holds, and help from manager Gen. Skandor Akbar and the mysterious Friday. The interference backfired on the Ugandan, however, when Akbar entered the ring as his wrestler was slamming Duggan. Akbar accidently tripped Kamala, and Duggan took advantage of the mishap to gain the victory.

In other bouts, Junkyard Dog beat Butch Reed by disqualification . . . Dusty Rhodes beat King Kong Bundy . . . Ted DiBiase defeated Terry Allen . . . Steve "Dr. Death" Williams defeated Rip Rogers . . . The Missing Link beat Tim Horner. □

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YOUR LETTERS

(Continued from page 6)

Billy Jack. I wish that we could send a tape of Billy to the *World Championship Wrestling* from Georgia television program so that more people could see and appreciate him.

Thank you, and keep up the good work.

STEVE HANDLEY
Seattle

BRAVO FOR BIG DADDY

I picked up the September 1983 issue of *The Wrestler* and started reading through the magazine. As I did so, I came across the article about Big Daddy. At once I thought, oh no, a rule-breaking moron who only deals with infamous managers and rule-breaking armies. Then I read the article. After finding out that Big Daddy wrestles along with Dusty Rhodes, I figure he can't be all that bad. I'm so used to mammoth wrestlers being rule-breakers, it was a refreshing change of pace. Please keep up the coverage on Big Daddy.

ROXANN WOODWARD
Martinsburg, WV

A CLOSE FAMILY

Thank you for your article in the September 1983 issue of *The Wrestler* entitled "Blackjack Mulligan & Barry Windham: Has Their Reunion Turned Sour?" I think it may be a litle sour, because I believe they'd like to wrestle together again on a regular basis, but at least their relationship is not full of bitterness anymore. Today, when the term "family" seems to mean so little, it's nice to know that the two of them were willing to put aside their pride to iron out their differences.

Barry still has people like Kevin Sullivan and The Purple Haze to deal with. Speaking of Kevin Sullivan, let me say that I agree with Eric Wahlberg who wrote a letter in your last issue saying that Kevin Sullivan was "a lousy excuse for a wrestler" if he has to use foreign objects and have help to beat his opponents. Something has to be done about Sullivan and the Haze, and men like Barry Windham, Dusty Rhodes, and Blackjack Mulligan will get the job done.

VICKI HARDEN
Ahoskie, NC

The reunion between Blackjack Mulligan and Barry Windham has been the subject of many letters received at *The Wrestler*.

GROW UP, ADONIS!

As a wrestling fan in the AWA for many, many years, and a reader of your magazine, I have come to be somewhat of an expert on professional wrestling. I would like to express my view of Adrian Adonis' claim of being the only true undisputed heavyweight champion of the world. I address my comments to Mr. Adonis himself:

I remember very well when you held the AWA tag team title with Jesse Ventura. You didn't display any great skills, whereas Nick Bockwinkel and Harley Race are proven greats and hold very highly regarded championships. So, Adrian, you will have to understand, just because you won a tournament and hold a belt, this doesn't mean you're an immortal.

Grow up, Adonis!

THOMAS TRIAL
Lake Station, IN

Adrian Adonis (below) will have to prove himself further before he can be ranked among champions like Harley Race and Nick Bockwinkel, writes Thomas Trial. Reader Chris Powers applauds Assistant Editor Dan Shocket's coverage of Buzz Sawyer (top right).

HOORAY FOR SHOCKET

An open letter to Dan Shocket:

I have said it before and I'll say it again: You are the greatest wrestling reporter on the face of the earth. I just received the October 1983 issue of *The Wrestler*, and inside I found the best article I have ever read: "Buzz Sawyer—This Mad Dog Feeds On Dick Murdoch's Blood."

Everything you wrote was correct, Dan. I have hated that fat, fake patriot Murdoch ever since I saw him wrestle on *World Championship Wrestling*. I jumped for joy when Buzz Sawyer forced him to leave Georgia. I hope Murdoch never comes back. I knew someone would force him out of Georgia, and I'm glad Sawyer did it. Now if the Mad Dog could put Murdoch out of wrestling forever, that would put the icing on the cake.

I thank Buzz for driving Murdoch out of Georgia, and I thank you, Mr. Shocket, for writing the best article ever.

CHRIS POWERS
Severna Park, MD ☐

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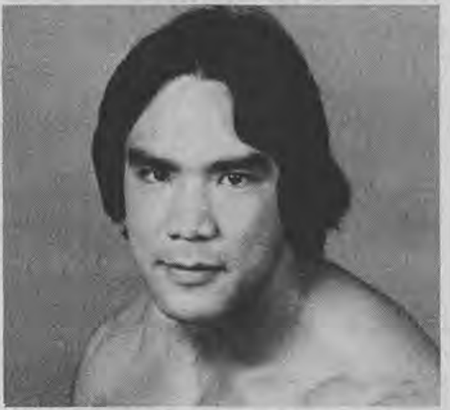
YOU ASKED US

(Continued from page 12)

done with that, I can concentrate on getting a title shot against Harley Race. I sure would like to wear that NWA belt again!"

Q: "My question is for Rick Steamboat: If you care so much about your fans, as you say you do, then how come you never answer letters from us? I have written to you so many times I can't even remember how many letters



Rick Steamboat regrets that he cannot answer all his fan mail.

I've mailed. Perhaps you don't care for the fans as much as I thought you did."—Linda Jenkins, Culpepper, VA

A: Rick Steamboat replies: "I'm sorry that you feel this way, Linda, but you've got to understand that answering mail is a very time-consuming process. I've spoken with other wrestlers who are very popular with the fans, and they all tell me that they have the same problems that I do. I receive so much mail, it's difficult to find time to read it all, much less answer the letters I receive. What I try to do is answer as much mail as I can in the form of granting interviews in magazines, cooperating with people from *The Wrestler,* for example. That way I reach more people than if I just wrote individual letters, and I can spend my free time on what is most necessary in my career: weight room work and training for my upcoming matches."

Q: "A question for Ron Bass: Mr. Bass, I think you're a fat bum, and I was wondering if you think you can get the NWA World title without the help of the 'American Dream' Dusty Rhodes." —Phillip Guidice, Sarasota, FL

A: "Tell me why I should even bother answering this individual's insulting letter," Bass told *The Wrestler*. "This man insults me by calling me 'a fat bum,' and then he expects a civil answer in return? Mr. Guidice, you have a lot to learn about life and how to deal with people. Yes, I can win the World title, and I don't need Dusty's help to do it."

Q: "I would like to ask the greatest wrestler in the sport, Michael Hayes, how he would feel if 'Freebird Fantasia' be-

Michael Hayes doesn't have to fantasize about his superiority.

came a worldwide craze, reaching to people at the tips of every country and encompassing the whole planet earth."—Gregory Zajac, Menominee, MI

A: Michael Hayes' reply: "It has, Gregory, it already has." ☐

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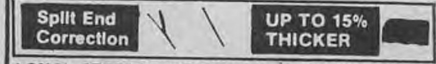

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DINO BRAVO

(Continued from page 33)

ing to share his findings. He didn't intend to do make the information available, but his experience against Superstar made him change his mind.

"Superstar is a very dangerous person," Dino states, "and he must be stopped. When he challenged me for my Canadian International championship recently in Montreal, he was the most ruthless opponent I've ever faced. He was managed by Lord Al Hays, a pretty ruthless guy himself. But at the end of his stay here, Hays was happy to see Superstar go. Hays didn't say so, but he couldn't fool me. Lord Al was scared of Masked Superstar and for good reason. The guy is totally out of control. If he held a major title, it would be a disaster! I have to do everything im power to prevent that.

"I've offered to show Backlund my research but he seems hesitant to take it. He's worked out his own strategies and isn't sure he should change them by seeing new information. I think he'll eventually decide to take advantage of my offer. I just hope he'll accept in time."

Bravo leans back on his chair and shakes his head. He knows it will take weeks of preparation for Backlund to successfully prepare for Masked Superstar. If Backlund decides too late to accept Dino's aid, or decides that his own strategies will succeed, he title is in real jeopardy. Then Dino fears Masked Superstar would wreck the WWF and then all of wrestling. After reading Dino's re-

Bravo, making a title defense in Montreal, holds Masked Superstar to the mat in a hammerlock. Would Bravo's style work for WWF champion Backlund?

Mr. Wrestling II was able to exploit Masked Superstar's apparent weakness to armlocks but was still not completely successful.

search, it doesn't seem as if Bravo is being overly worried. Backlund remains particularly vulnerable to Masked Superstar's more subtle and dangerous maneuvers.

Most frightening, as far as Bravo is concerned, is that Superstar will be managed by The Grand Wizard. Dino believes Wizard is one of the few managers able to control Masked Superstar, making him even more dangerously effective. Wizard clearly knows where Superstar's true strength lies and will be able to exploit it. Backlund is facing the most fearsome threat of his title reign.

Bravo wants to help for the good of wrestling. His selfless offer can save wrestling from a destructive reign of terror. All wrestling owes Dino a vote of thanks. Most important, Bob Backlund owes it to wrestling to take advantage of Bravo's generosity. □

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BRUISER BOB SWEETAN

(Continued from page 31)

ing me flowers, I'll come back to haunt him!" Bob had no doubt she would.

It made Bob smile to imagine her reaction if she could see him there. She'd laugh, but not at him. Sweetan got comfort from visiting his aunt's grave. When Sweetan was troubled, deeply troubled, this is where he would go to think.

Bob Sweetan was deeply troubled. Within a year, he'd gone from one of the most popular wrestlers to being officially designated the most hated man in the sport. It wasn't what he wanted, but he felt he had no choice. When a man is betrayed, he has to make things right. If he can't do it one way, then he's got to do it another. Bob may be hated, but he's not pushed around. No one takes advantage of Bob Sweetan.

It all involves the Southwest title. Sweetan owned it and defended it proudly. Many fans considered his reign the title's finest hour. Then he lost the title to Tully Blanchard. It was a controversial loss and Sweetan wasn't ashamed. He asked only for a chance to get it back.

He didn't get the chance. Blanchard, with the help of various officials, froze Sweetan out of the title picture. Something inside Sweetan snapped. He never realized how much the title meant to him. It was as if he was cut off at the knees; the foundation of his life turned to quicksand. Flailing about, his outlook on life got wild and reckless. Eventually, it turned cruel. He wanted others to feel the pain he felt. He wanted others to feel worse than he felt.

He accomplished that. Using all the dirty tricks he had learned years before, Sweetan became the most dangerous opponent anyone could face. He was surprised, and a little disappointed, that the illegal maneuvers came back to him so quickly. A few months before, he

Sweetan reaches outside the ring to smother Sweet Brown Sugar. When Bob was disqualified for refusing to release the illegal hold, he didn't show any emotion at all.

believed all that was behind him. It saddened him to think how close all that savagery was to the surface.

The sound of a power lawnmower disturbed Sweetan's concentration. He watched as the gardener wended his way through the plots, clipping the grass with a little too much attention to his task. He didn't want the huge grappler to think the roar of the engine was an unnecessary interruption. He wanted Sweetan to know he had to get this done, and he was sorry for the loud noise. Sweetan's first reaction was to break the man in half, to hell with the importance of the job, but Bob didn't move. Aunt Lizzie wouldn't have liked it.

Other people started to come to pay their respects to late members of their family. The dew had dried, the sun was beginning to promise a hot day, and Sweetan had things to

do. If there was an afterlife, he hoped Aunt Lizzie appreciated him not going after the gardener. He also hoped she hadn't reconsidered about the flowers and was upset that her grave would be bare. Sweetan smiled. Knowing Aunt Lizzie, he doubted she would mind that flowers were being sent to someone else.

As he walked to the car, Sweetan realized he felt good. He was smiling for the first time in a long time. For some reason, his best matches came back to him. He remembered battling Killer Brooks and Adrian Adonis as the fans cheered. He remembered their smiles and hopes, how they wanted him to win almost as much as he did. He won and made arenas ecstatic. He was the recipient of all that energy, all that excitement. For the only time in his life, he understood what it meant to be a hero. What he did became more important than himself; he was the focus for the common good. He kept smiling all the way home.

It wasn't until Bob got into his house that the smile disappeared. Then he thought about the match he had scheduled for that evening. He thought about how the fans would boo him, how his opponent had a few short months ago been his friend, and how savagely he would try to maul the man into unconsciousness. He would brawl in what would be a disgraceful exhibition of wrestling rulebreaking. That's the way things were these days.

He was once beloved, once Southwest champion, once a man filled with pride and self-respect. That afternoon, Sweetan packed his gym bag, readied himself for the coming confrontation and realized he was no longer smiling. His past no longer gave him pleasure. All he had now was the future, a future filled with rage, brutality, and hatred. When Sweetan got in his car, he tried not to think about anything at all. □

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Yes now, even if you have been thin for years, you can have the fuller, more attractive body you have always wanted without dangerous drugs, without heart-straining exercise, without unpleasant tasting medicines!

This exciting method is easy, pleasant, and medically sound beyond a shadow of a doubt, and your own Doctor could tell you the same thing.

HERE'S ALL YOU DO

Before meals, or whenever you feel like it, you take delicious, chewable, nutritionally fortified GAIN tablets and that's it! No other medication to take. Nothing difficult or unpleasant to do, and without even being aware of it, a wonderfully exciting change takes place.

Those high-calorie GAIN tablets are rich in body-building materials! They not only add weight themselves, but they sharpen your appetite! You look forward to mealtimes, and without even realizing it, you start to eat more and almost immediately the weight gaining process begins!

As you follow your GAIN Plan which includes nutritional high calorie menus. You add pounds and inches to your arms, legs, chest, hips, everywhere. You'll be amazed at the fantastic transformation that occurs . . . as thin, unattractive areas start to develop into new magnetic appeal. You'll be thrilled to discover that as you gain weight you will have more pep and energy for all the wonderful things in life!

THINK OF WHAT THIS CAN MEAN TO YOU

If you are one of those unfortunate people who can't wear all the new high style clothes you want to wear . . . if you are ashamed of the way you look in a bathing suit . . . embarrassed because your legs are too thin and spindly . . . your chest is too flat . . . your arms aren't the full, rounded limbs they were meant to be . . . If you long for a more attractive-looking body, the safe, pleasant GAIN Plan can be the answer to your prayers!

Yes, now, with the GAIN Plan to help, it's so easy, so pleasant to add pounds and inches of firm, attractive flesh . . . so full-filling to feel better, stronger, more vital and alive! But don't take our word for it. Prove it to yourself at our risk!

If you sincerely want to gain weight, and to look better and feel better as a result,

HERE IS OUR OFFER . . .

We honestly believe the GAIN Plan to be the finest and most effective product of its type sold anywhere in the world today, and to prove our confidence, we are backing that statement up with this honest, straight-forward offer . . .

Try the fabulous new GAIN Plan in your own home at our risk. Subject it to any test you like. Weigh yourself before you start. Weigh yourself later. If you haven't started to see substantial weight gain within 7 days, and if you don't feel better and look better as a result, or, if you are not completely satisfied for any reason, PAY NOTHING! It's just as simple as that.

If you are in doubt . . . even if you think nothing can possibly help you, for the sake of your appearance, and your happiness, at least try it! If the GAIN Plan works the way we know it will, you'll agree it is worth the few dollars it cost.

On the other hand, if it doesn't work the way you expected, it costs you nothing, and a least you have had the satisfaction of trying it at our expense.

What could be fairer than that? The next move is up to you. Once and for all, determine to do something about your underweight! We know you'll be happy you did.

SKINNY MEN AND WOMEN ARE NOT ATTRACTIVE

. . . a skinny, scrawny body is no asset in social or business life. Give the GAIN Plan a chance to help build you up and put firm flesh on you.

GAIN IS SAFE

GAIN is not a dangerous drug, medicine or a fishy-tasting oil. It is made of safe, pure ingredients, contains nothing which could possibly harm you, and may even be taken with complete safety by children.

MAIL NO-RISK COUPON TODAY

GAIN PRODUCTS CORP. Dept G731
Box 2346, Carbondale, Ill. 62901

Please send my package of GAIN Plan immediately with the understanding that if I am not satisfied, I may have my money back, no questions asked.

- ☐ One GAIN PLAN for $9.98
- ☐ SAVE $2.00! Order 2 for $17.96
- ☐ SAVE $5.00! Order 3 for $25.00

Enclosed is $______

☐ cash, ☐ check or ☐ money order

NAME ______ please print

ADDRESS ______

CITY ______

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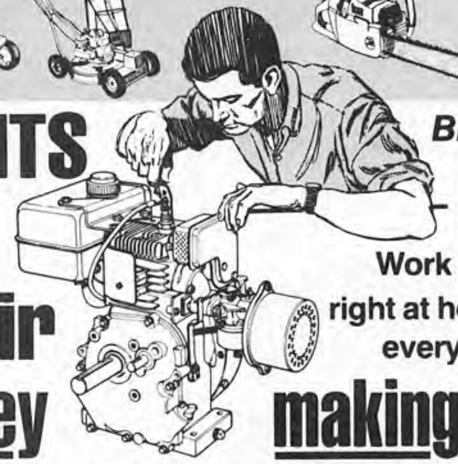
Get in on the PROFITS in SMALL ENGINE service and repair



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Cash in on the huge demand for small engine repair.

Work part time, full time right at home - we help you every step of the way.

Start your own money making business!

In just a short time, you can be ready to join one of the fastest growing industries in America...an industry where qualified men are making from $10.00 to $15.00 per hour...and that's just for labor. Parts, engines and accessories add even more to the profits.

Because the small engine industry has grown so quickly, an acute shortage of qualified Small Engine Professionals exists throughout the country. In fact, it's not unusual for a good small engine man to be three to four weeks behind in the summer and at least a week behind in the winter. When you see how many small engines are in use today, it's easy to understand why qualified men command such high prices—as much as $17.50 for a simple tune-up that takes less than an hour!

65-million small engines are in service today!

That's right — there are over sixty-five million 2-cycle and 4-cycle small engines in service across the U.S.A. That's the official count from the Engine Service Assn., and new engines are being built at a rate of one-million per month! With fully accredited and approved Foley-Belsaw training, you can soon have the skill and knowledge to make top money servicing these engines. Homeowners and businessmen will seek you out and pay you well to service and repair their lawnmowers, tillers, edgers, power rakes, garden tractors, chain saws, mini-bikes, go-carts, snowmobiles, generators, snowblowers, paint sprayers... the list is almost endless.

No experience necessary.

You don't need to be a 'born mechanic' or have prior experience. If you can read, you can master this profitable trade right at home, in your sparetime, without missing a single paycheck. Lessons are fully illustrated—so clear you can't go wrong.

You receive trade secrets and business plans.

We guide you every step of the way, including tested and proven instructions on how to get business, what to charge, how to get free advertising, where to get supplies wholesale... all the "tricks of the trade"... all the inside facts you need to assure success right from the start.

Increased Income

"I've had about 8 years experience repairing small engines... but repairs were only minor... until I started the Foley-Belsaw Course."

Walter H. Strick
Campbell, California

With our famous 'learn-by-doing' training method, you get practical 'hands-on' experience with specialized tools and equipment that you'll receive with your training *plus* a brand-new 4 HP engine—*all yours to keep!*

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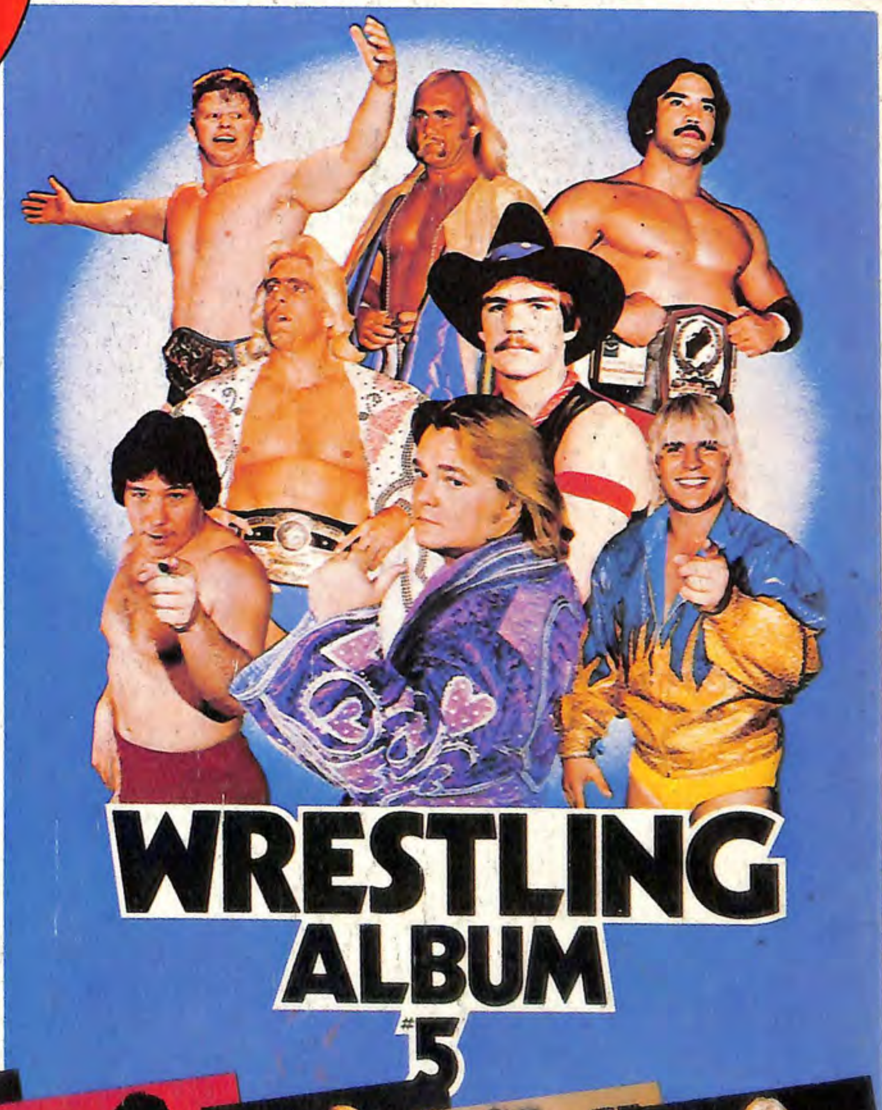
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